

07/08



PEOPLE'S WHOLE LIVES *DO* PASS IN FRONT OF THEIR EYES BEFORE THEY DIE.

NARWA

PARK 07/08

THE PROCESS IS CALLED "LIVING."

Terry Pratchett



2008

Cover: 2007 Park Study Abroad. Top: St. Mark's Campanile, Venice, Italy. Bottom: Student Janice Gerke in Pula, Croatia. Photos/Tessa Elwood

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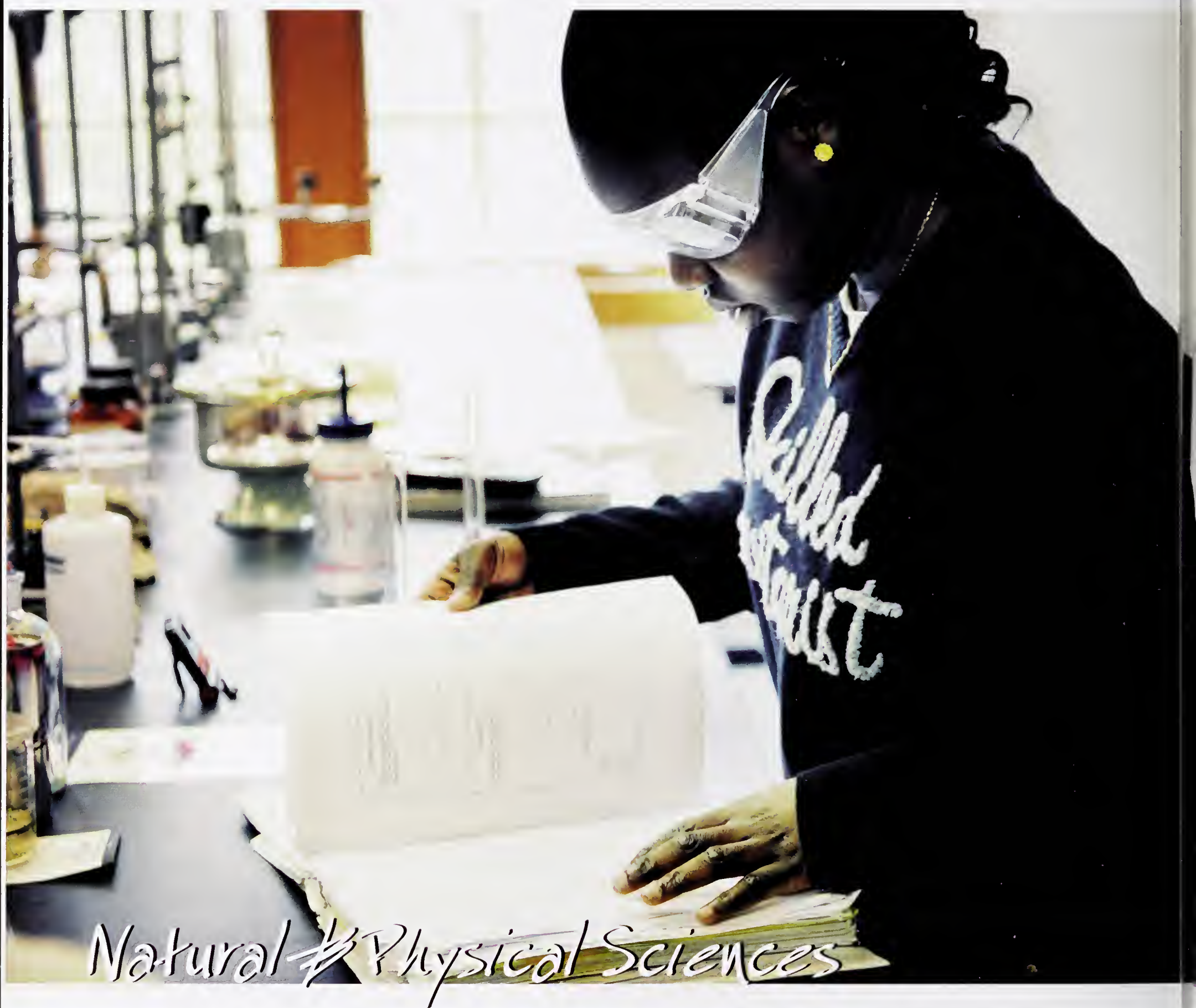
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Natural & Physical Sciences

Welcome to the Department of Natural and Physical Sciences. Biologists, chemists, geologists, etc. are all scientists. Science is an important path to development as a society, and Park University's future scientists are no exception.

Every undergraduate degree-seeking student is required by their degree plans to take a science course with a lab in the department.

In April 2007, Park University's professors and students from the Department of Natural and Physical Sciences took home awards from the 43rd annual Missouri Academy of Science meeting in St. Joseph, Mo. The annual Missouri Academy of Science meeting is hosted by the Missouri Academy of Science and presently has 49 colleges and universities holding membership in its ranks (moacad.org).

Scientists attempt to uncover the past and discover the future. Scientist students are willing to step forward, from fact into theory and beyond. In Park University's courses, students learn about principles and apply them to experiments. They sit in class rooms and study laws and theories before recreating them in laboratories. With only the mind and the execution of its ideas as the obstacle, students are learning how to apply logic to the unknown and how to utilize it in their surroundings.

Department Overview by Sara Lovelace



Geography

'To describe the earth'

BY ASHLEY Y. VENERABLE

Culture, religion, language, location, climate, agriculture, environment, region, vegetation, people, north, south, east, west, bodies of water, bodies of land. From the rugged terrain of the Pyrenees to the cool blue rush of the Rhine River, all of these elements huddle under the umbrella of geography. The study of geography is a gateway to the rest of the world.

Most schooled in the United States are not exposed to geography as a serious or meaningful subject, like mathematics or science. Many people associate geography with maps and location. Although this is true in part, geography is multi-faceted and encompasses many topics.

Geography is sometimes considered to be waning with the progression of global and environmental studies. These sub-disciplines may be a little different or more concentrated, but Geography is the study of all these things and more.

"People often don't realize how interdisciplinary geography is," says geography senior BJ Kidd. "It's more than just locating places on a map, it's not as limited as other studies may be."

Those who think geography has gone by the wayside may soon reconsider. According to Assistant Professor David Fox, the Department of Labor released a study in 2004 of the top career fields to expand in coming years. Atop the list was Geographical-Spatial Technology followed by Biotechnology and thirdly Nanotechnology.

The geography major is a fairly young addition at Park Uni-

versity. It was added in the 2004 academic year and has slowly collected majors, since 2005. Geography has been growing at a steady pace, with about 10 majors in 2006. It saw its first two graduates in May 2007; Rosalee Watkins and Andrew Elder.

Kidd is one of the two expected to graduate at the end of the spring semester 2008. Kidd started as an English major, hoping to eventually utilize that degree to explore the field of linguistics and demographic issues.

Kidd went on her first trip overseas to Jamaica at age 14 and was astounded by what she saw. "The family units were very different in Jamaica and schooling was very expensive," she recalls. "Most families couldn't afford to send all of their children so they would pick the child with the most potential, or rotate children through school."

Her instinct was to study English coming into college because she says she best expresses herself through writing. After taking one general education course in geography, Kidd learned "geography" literally means "to write or describe the earth" and decided to switch majors.

Kidd's ultimate goal is a master's degree and to someday teach. As for graduation, Kidd admits she's a little nervous, but looks

forward to working with some not-for-profit organizations in spreading demographic awareness.



Sato; originally a fine arts major, she too changed to geography because of its flexibility and her love of global exploration.

Sato is originally from Japan and left home to study in the U.S. at age 16.

"I always knew I would leave Japan," says Kinuko. "My mother always said I didn't have to stay

forward to working with some not-for-profit organizations in spreading demographic awareness.

Another geography major graduating in 2008 is Kinuko



Photos/Tessa Elwood

Above from left to right: Sara Wingerd and Rachel Schifferle share a seat; Kinuko Sato goes over her notes and BJ Kidd explains a new event for the club.

Left: Sato writes notes as Josh Martin and Jonna Brothers look on in the background.

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where I was born, I don't think that the society in Japan is for me." Kinuko has lots of support from her mother who currently lives in Japan. Her father, she says, would prefer her to be a doctor or lawyer but her heart is set on learning about the world.

Sato still pines for art but enjoys the possibilities of combining that with a geographic perspective.

As far as graduating is con-

cerned Kinuko says she enjoys school and could keep taking classes forever; she hopes to pursue a master's degree in the future. Sato says she wants all the experience she can get, and is interested in working with humanitarian aid.

"I'm really excited to see what I'm capable of and where I'll go," says Sato.

Together, Sato and Kidd have formed a geography club. Initially a

work-study project, Kidd and Sato thought it could be an ideal place for geography majors and minors to get together. Also, Fox wanted students to be more involved in the campus' Climate Commitment Commission. The CCC was signed by Park's president last year as a commitment to reduce Park's greenhouse gas emissions. The geography club began its first meetings in the spring semester of 2008.



Advanced chemistry Goggles and test tubes

BY SARA LOVELACE

Walk into Park University's Spring 2008 Physical Chemistry class and you might be surprised. Like many science courses, the lab is an integral part of the class. Unlike lower ranking science courses, CH408 is a small class.

"This is the last chemistry you take and the hardest," Damian Berry, graduating senior, says.

The experiments being conducted on March 2 seem basic: viscosity, or how fast a liquid moves through a vessel, and conductivity. However, once the chemists begin talking, the lab's complexity becomes apparent.

"We are performing an experiment in viscosity," Cynthia May, graduating senior, says. "What I'm making right now is polyvinyl alcohol. We're just going to time how fast it moves through the vessel to calculate the viscosity."

May begins by preheating water to dissolve the polyvinyl alcohol, which looks like a white powder, into before scooping it onto a rectangular tray. She takes it into a room adjacent to the lab where the scales are kept. She calculates the amount she needs and adds it to the preheated water back in the main lab. From there, it is a matter of waiting for the polyvinyl alcohol to dissolve. To speed along the process, May drops in a white instrument that looks like hard candy. It begins

to spin wildly.

"It's a stir bar - like a polarized magnet," May says as she attempts to aid the stir bar by using a stir stick near the top of the water and polyvinyl mixture. "It's taking forever to dissolve."

On the other side of the lab, another group is setting up for an experiment on conductivity.

"One of the useful applications for testing for conductance is you can find the charge of the molecules," Berry says. "We had two chemicals that were supposed to be the same, but we didn't think they were. We are trying to identify if the chemicals are the same."

Berry sits at a long, rectangular table, an instrument sitting on the counter. He looks at the beaker through a pair of green safety glasses before writing in his notebook.

"I'm practicing how to calibrate the conductivity meter. It is terribly sensitive to temperature changes. What we're doing is creating a reaction with the ethyl-acetat."

Because the chemicals' temperatures are highly important to the experiment, if they fluctuate too much the experiment will be invalid.

While having the responsibility of their own lab on Berry and his lab partners' shoulders, Jennifer Geeco, senior, experiences the pressure of making chemical formula and solutions for the entire class to work with.



"I'm doing calculations to do a molar calculation so I can make a solution to do a UV-VIS scan on some dyes," Geeco explains with a dry-erase pen in hand as she adjusts a chemical formula on the board. "Different compounds have different wavelengths. UV is to find the difference between the compounds. I'm going to find this wavelength, but I have to make sure I have the right concentration and solution or when I have to scan it, it won't work or will give the wrong reading."

For many chemistry majors, mathematics is a part of the game. The bachelors of science at Park University requires science bachelor hopefuls to take almost every applied mathematics course offered.

"For our degree, you have to have a minor in mathematics," Berry says.

During late February, the chemistry class was experimenting with a different type of instrument: a bomb calorimeter. For those who like explosions, this is a fun experiment.

"We have an experiment that we do that simulates a bomb," Berry says. "We blow stuff up in a chamber and measure enthalpy — a thermodynamic property — which tests for the amount of heat released and absorbed in a reaction."

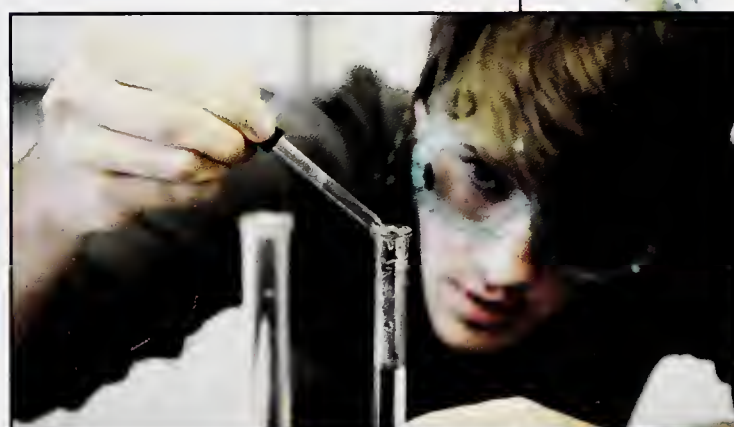
Many of these labs take multiple lab sessions to complete.

"The chemistry lab is as fundamental as the lecture," Berry

says. "In major universities, there are only maybe ten people. What we're doing in theory and lecture is quantum mechanics."

Chemistry students often find themselves in the minority, but this does not bother them.

"Chemistry is not for everyone," says Berry, "There's even a bumper sticker that says 'Honk if you pass physical chemistry!'"



Left: Aaron Boorem checks his experiment. Top: Brian Barry uses an eyedropper to squeeze water in a test tube. Above: Associate Professor Patricia Chernovitz makes a note for Lisa Gundy and Boorem. Right: Barry gets his beakers ready for the next experiment.



photos/Tessa Elwood



School for Education



by Sadie Clement

Park University School for Education offers students many options for certification from pre-kindergarten through high school while focusing on teaching in a variety of styles and techniques. The School for Education prepares future teachers for the diverse needs and backgrounds of students. Future teachers educated at Park University will be prepared to be leaders within the schools and community.

Department Overview



A SENSE OF PASSION

REBECCA JOHNSON

Most people have a passion. Athletes are passionate about their sport, scholars of their studies. Kristen Elizabeth Looloian is passionate about her dedication to Jesus Christ. She apologizes for being so intense about it. She hopes it will not "put people off." But if it does – that is the way it will have to be. Her passion for serving Christ is a love which makes her who she is, and drives the plot of her story.

She also likes kids. According to Looloian, God made her that way. She hopes to have at least four of them calling her "mommy" someday, and then maybe adopt a couple more. But the 21-year-old says motherhood is still a few years down the road.

Looloian is an early childhood education major at Park. Today she is in a classroom at Hawley Hall teaching a group of pre-schoolers about teamwork. She shows them how to play a game called "the machine." Leading this activity is the core project for one of her education classes, and her voice shakes just a little as she explains how her game works to the kids. A little boy who whispers his name for only her to hear, leans into her lap and rests his elbows on her leg, gazing up at her with big, blue eyes.

She asks each child to name a kind of machine and they are full of answers. "Motorcycle," one of them yells out. "Train," the blue-eyed boy hollers.

"Yes," Looloian says, "and what kind of noises do trains make?" With a choo choo, organized chaos ensues. Each child stands, making a movement and sound for their machine. There is a blender, a toaster, a school bus, and an airplane – so many noises the classroom becomes a little factory, complete with a toot toot and a vroom vroom.

When all goes quiet, Looloian asks, "What did we just make?"

"A mah-sheen," say tiny voices. Looloian points out how the kids worked together to make the machine go.

"That's what we call teamwork," she explains.

Looloian says she uses this same teamwork concept to build her life into something great with God's guidance.

"My relationship with Christ has brought about so many changes in my life and my heart," she says. "He has led me in every step of my life, whether I was aware of it or not, and has created me with a purpose to honor Him. He has given me the eyes to see the similarities between all of us as humans. We have a longing to be filled and satisfied by something greater than ourselves."

As a sophomore at Indiana Wesleyan University in Indiana, Looloian was confused. Not because she was unhappy, but because something "didn't feel right." She did not understand it. She loved the tight-knit community and her new friends. She even loved her classes. So what was wrong?

"I was so desperate for God to show me what he wanted me to do," she says. "I had no idea."

Over Christmas break, she attended "Praise 06," a Christian conference for college students. Her last morning there, she was singing her heart out during a church service when she felt God talking to her.

"Suddenly, he was saying to me 'Kristen, what is the most important thing in your life?'" Looloian says. "And then I knew the answer. It was to make sure I do whatever it takes for all my life, my decisions, and my emotions to be for Jesus. He put it in my heart to love Him above all else, and to do whatever loving Him led me to do. It was that

moment that brought me to the decision to take a semester away from college and be a part of doing middle and high school ministry at my church back in Kansas City. I knew I had to start working with kids again."

Looloian still hears from God, and a recent conversation resulted in her signing up for a mission trip to Africa.

"I've been accepted into the program," she says, smiling. "I don't know much more than that yet, like exactly where and exactly what I'll be doing. What I do know is I'll be spending the better part of the year overseas teaching and building relationships with families and children, and that's all that matters. I wish I knew more of the specifics. I'm trying to be patient and listen to my heart."

Looloian's concern seems to grow as she presses her lips together and tilts her head to the side. "There are other things about me that may be more typical of a 21-year-old," she says with a small voice. "I know most of them don't plan humanitarian trips to Africa. I love to play party games like charades, or activities I just come up with on the fly, and I love hanging out with my roommates and my best friends. I love coffee shops, and watching movies, and I hate shopping."

Whatever she does, have no doubt it will involve spending quality time with other people. She is not the type who likes to sit at home being solitary. According to her, the recipe to make a Looloian consists of four directions: Worship out loud. Love out loud. Laugh out loud. Repeat.

"I am amazed by His love for me, and I want to share that love with others," she explains. "I want to know people. I'm sure that sounds simple or overgeneralized, but I love people so much. I love hearing their stories, and sharing life with them. And that's where my love for children comes in. I have a passion for kids and the excitement they bring to life."

Looloian is committed to graduating and making a difference in the world. She says being so determined sometimes turns her into a bit of a control freak.

"I tend to take over in my classes sometimes," she says. "Not the ones I teach, but the ones I'm a student in. If there is a decision that needs to be made, or people aren't getting things done as quickly as I think they should, or if the instructor gets off track, sometimes, I just jump in and get it all put together. It's a little crazy I know, and I'm working on it. I do the same thing at home, too. I just try not to be pushy. Usually, everyone appreciates my help, but sometimes even I can tell I'm being too controlling. I'm surprised no one has told me to just be quiet."

The kids in her pre-school class express no need for her to be quiet. They hang on her every word as she passes out brown paper lunch bags and offers up erayons.

"We're going to make puppets," she explains.

The blue-eyed boy chooses a yellow crayon and draws a face on his paper bag. "Miss Kristen?" he says.

"Yes, Hon? Who did you draw?" she asks.

"I used yellow cause it looks like your hair," he says.

"That is why I do this," she explains after the recess bell has rung, "because I can make a difference in the lives of these kids. My love for Him fuels everything good that I do – my love for working with children, my love to help those who are oppressed, my love to be with people – it's all because of the hope He offers me. He is the biggest part of my life, and I'm the kind of person who wants to share His love."

According to Looloian, God made her that way.



Expanding the boundaries of education

BY REJLYN MACK

Betty Bennett # the ASCD

Betty Bennett wears several hats; she is the Director of Field Experience in the School for Education, and the leader of the local chapter of the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD), a non-profit organization. Bennett and Ann Wentz advise.

ASCD provides a gateway for students pursuing a degree in education, and takes students and educators to various conventions in the general region. It is designed to give knowledge to those who are unsure of what an education degree can offer. Considering many different types of curriculum activities, ASCD tries to show off the features of education in new ways.

"Many students said that they had never been out of the state of Missouri," says Bennett, speaking of the gaps in student understanding regarding education. Many students gain their knowledge of the field from television or college brochure summaries. Unfortunately, the information is only a small portion of what education has to offer. This is where Bennett and the ASCD have opened doors for students, providing further knowledge and insight. The ASCD gives members the opportunity to visit conventions, where students can see the full potential of careers in education, like becoming counselors, consultants, principals and many other self-rewarding areas.

Last year, the ASCD attended one such conference in Chicago. Bennett explains how on arriving in the city students were amazed at the number of connected buildings, the long strings of cars waiting at red lights, the flashy lights glowing from buildings at night, and the hundreds of people on the sidewalks. The educational convention brought more sights and information of interest, with booths on the different areas, careers, and other developments in the field. Students were able to meet a few famous thinkers in education at the conference.

Bennett explains that by "step[ing] out of their homeland and travel[ing] to other states" students can see how important and varied education can be. After recognizing this, students are then ready to go further in their major.

The ASCD has been recognized by the Missouri NEA for its help in raising money for schools badly damaged by tornados in Greensburg, Kans. It also contributed to the "Pennies for Greensburg" project, raising funds to help with books, supplies, and support for students and teachers in Greensburg schools.

Not long after, the Missouri SNEA granted Betty Bennett the "Exceptional State SNEA Advisor" award for her exemplary leadership.

The ASCD is not only for people pursuing education, but also for those who are unsure which degree to choose. If you are interested in education and the careers it offers, start with the ASCD by calling Betty Bennett or stopping at her office on the third floor of Copley.



Top photo/Sadie Clement, others courtesy of Betty Bennett

Top photo: Mixing laughter and discussion, the ASCD club grabs lunch in Thompson while going over club business.

During the recent conference in New Orleans, the ASCD takes time out for a swamp boat ride.

Middle photo, from left to right: Debbie Allegro, LaDonna Ebright (ASCD co-sponsor), Gail Hennessy, Betty Bennett (ASCD co-sponsor), Kim Kasperbauer, Connie Royal, and the swamp adventure guide.

Bottom photo, from left to right: Park ASCD students Becky Sherwood, Amanda Brimer, Erica Zahbia, Stefanie Bourne, and Dustin Kerns.

Right: Betty Bennett in her office. Photo by Tessa Elwood.



Park Student Northland News Station

SHAYLEE HENNING

PHOTOS/TESSA ELWOOD

TV NEWS



lights, camera, action



The halogen lights inside Park University's television production room start to dim as Sean Kosednar calmly says "Stand by everyone!" The opening music starts and two smiling faces appear on camera. It's a typical Monday morning for Kosednar who is the producer for "Northland News." He has already been to the studio for about three hours and has carefully examined each video that is going on air, loaded the video, and written copy for the anchors to read on camera and any voiceovers in the upcoming show.

On the "Northland News," students work as staff members of a cable TV show produced, reported, written and anchored by current Park students. Writing and reporting skills are important, as students will be able to take any work they have done and show it to future employers. Through the guidance of Steven Youngblood, an assistant professor at Park, the students are able to create the show completely from scratch. After successfully recording a show, the students discuss which stories they would like to do for the next week. They cover news in the Parkville community as well as the Park campus.

"I love creating videos," Kosednar says. "I enjoy finding news, reporting it, and telling everyone about what I found out."

The show doesn't stop just yet for Kosednar, he wants to make the studio his home for a long time to come.

"I do see myself doing something with television or video in some capacity," Kosednar says. "I really don't know what I will be doing, but I do see myself working with television."

Past producer, Nima Shaffe, is the weekend weather forecaster at the ABC affiliate in St. Joseph, Mo. While at Park, he played several roles in the television department including news director, executive producer, producer, anchor, and director.

"One thing I will miss a great deal is helping others and serving as a mentor," Shaffe says. "It is a joy to help people and watch them grow fond of the business you have a passion for."

KMBC anchor, Jim Flink, accepted the role of teaching students and being a mentor in the television department in 2007.

"The students are very bright, fun, energetic, and have a drive that isn't found at every university," Flink said. Students received constructive criticism from a professional anchor while learning more about the broadcasting industry.

With the growing interest in the broadcasting field, Park students have the advantage of learning and applying their abilities in an intimate environment as opposed to a larger university.

"I learned a lot here and I will be able to take that knowledge into my future," Kosednar says.

The television program at Park University allows students to "try out" their dream jobs before signing a contract.



Far left top: A newsroom camera.

Far left middle: The Northland News crew discuss next week's agenda after the latest broadcast.

Far left bottom: Working with the back end equipment, Sean Kosednar prepares for today's filming.

Above: Assistant professor Steven Youngblood gives Kosednar and Heather Neri a few tips for the upcoming show.


Mid left: Looking over her notes, Neri prepares to anchor the news.

Left: Kosednar checks the computer while phoning to track down staff members.

Below: Putting on his headphones, Gregory Crainshaw gets the camera ready.







Apply with a creative mind only! The Art Department showcases the next generation of interior designers, graphic designers, and artists.

Tomorrow's design will develop with today's students. While they draw, paint, sculpt and design, the future of art is unfolding.

Welcome to Park University's version of the Crossroads Arts District. Park's art department offers four different degree sections for students: graphic design, interior design, fine arts and art education.

On the Park Website, the department notes incoming majors should be:

"Creative individuals who learn to express their ideas in a wide range of digital media as well as in the traditional hands-on studio techniques: Drawing, painting, ceramics, fiber and photography. They are visual thinkers, artistic problem solvers learning to generate visual solutions for a diverse range of clients in the world."

Department Overview by Sara Lovelace



FINDING A VISION

PHOTOS & STORY BY SARA LOVELACE

Anna Mandina stands at the far end of the room by a window. The early spring sunlight shines on her curly hair and her rectangular white mounted canvas. Preparing another painting, she slathers primer onto the canvas.

Mandina does work study for Professor Donna Bachmann, head of the art department. Right now, she is sitting in for Bachmann as art students begin to fill the classroom to work on their projects.

"There is a lot for us to do," Mandina says. "I'm the unofficial photographer for the department. Bachman has a photo display of our best work. Sometimes, I help her install shows in the Campanella Gallery. I try to keep the studio organized."

Mandina was able to do more than just install shows for other artists. In May 2008, Mandina hosted her own show in the Campanella Gallery. As a senior in fine arts, this is a special honor.

"My whole college career was fast," Mandina says. "Like it's over. I don't want to live off my art so this is my one chance to have a show completely about me. I want my family and friends to see what I've been doing the last five years."

When selecting a work study job, Mandina was drawn to the art department. She had Bachman in a class the previous semester, and inquired about a work study position.

"She was more than happy to have me," Mandina says.

However, Mandina was not always so confident in the art department as she is now. In fact, Mandina says she had little confidence in her abilities until she came to Park University. When she transferred to Park, she enrolled as a liberal arts major.

"I never thought I was any good so I kept it to myself," Mandina says. "In high school, I took a sculpture class. I took a drawing class for fun in college. I have a really good teacher."

Mandina took the drawing class and found something she loved.

"I think a lot of people lose faith because they teach themselves," Mandina shares. "They think they're not good enough and then give up. They never really tried very hard at it or give it a serious effort.

They don't take a class. 'Why bother?' I'm really glad I took these classes, because I found something I love to do."

Mandina received an internship with the Kansas City Artists Coalition last fall doing museum work. The internship was not based on artistic ability but on past experience and work ethic.

"I'm glad I can have this opportunity because if I didn't have the work study, I wouldn't have gotten the internship," Mandina says.

Mandina's responsibilities ranged from helping set up art shows for specific artists like she did in her work study to doing paperwork and correspondence for the Kansas City Artists Coalition.

"I started by organizing which images went to which art shows," Mandina says. "It was a mess. They had them all in folders; some unlabelled. I had to figure out which show was where and who did it."

This internship turned into something Mandina did not expect: an actual part-time job with the Coalition.

"I started the job right after my internship," Mandina says. "I really lucked out because they happened to need somebody at that time. I started by working Saturdays, but the main assistant left so I got more days and hours after that."

Mandina's responsibilities expanded.

"My job consists of glamorous things like hanging paintings, but it is mostly assistant work: new memberships, correspondence, updating the website," Mandina explains. "I do mailings. The job consists of everything from doing that to sweeping the floor. I really like working there."

One of the more glamorous parts of her job also includes the design of the last two show cards. Show cards are essentially post cards sent out to inform people about upcoming shows hosted by the Kansas City Artists Coalition.

For now, however, Mandina is looking forward to her own show cards and mounting her own work which include many references to a little yellow creature with an orange beak: the duck.

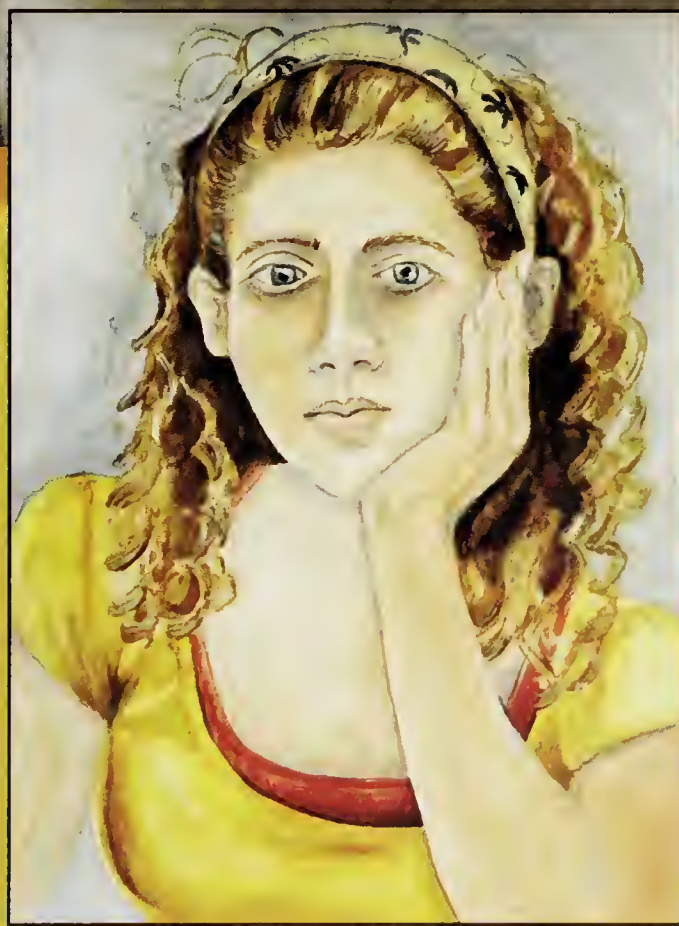
"I really like ducks," Mandina explains about much of her work, "I think that's appropriate. There will probably be another few paintings with a duck subject."

I'm glad I can have this opportunity because if I didn't have the work study, I wouldn't have gotten the internship.



IMAGES FROM MANDINA'S CAMPANELLA EXHIBIT

APRIL 28 -
MAY 8TH
2008



Professional networking

Dressed in a comfortable t-shirt and shorts, Meg Waters sits in the hallway outside the interior design studios at Park University taking a break from her studies to talk about the International Interior Design Association (IIDA).

Waters is the president of IIDA, the Park chapter of the world-wide professional organization that interior design students can join to learn more about the field and find employment after they graduate.

"It's a great way of networking," says Waters. "For us, it's mainly about networking and finding future employers."

IIDA is for interior design professionals and students who want to meet and get to know other professionals and students in order to share ideas, make connections, and to learn from each other. The club is a good way for a student to get a foot in the door.

"It's a really good thing to be a part of," Waters says, "just because it's a great way to get out into the community; the design community of Kansas City, meet people, find future jobs possibly, get your name out there because, especially in the design industry, it's really important to have contacts to get a job because otherwise it's pretty hard if you don't know anybody."

Waters says IIDA tries to help in a number of ways, such as holding career fairs and providing portfolio help.

Waters has been in the club for as long as she has been in the interior design program, about three or four years.

"It looks good that I was a part of IIDA when it's on my resume because it shows that I'm involved in community and involved in the professional organization."

Another thing the IIDA club at Park does is fund-raising for a variety of charities and events as well as raising money for the department. IIDA puts on shows or does projects to raise money for different things such as for the interior design department's senior show, but they also have fund-raising events for those in need in the community.

Design Industries Foundation Fighting AIDS (DIFFA) is an organization that works on prevention and education of HIV/AIDS, and IIDA is working with them on a fund-raiser. The project is called Dining by Design: students and

leading designers in Kansas City get together to design tables. The tables have certain themes in their designs.

"You design a table that would have a big centerpiece and you have your flatware and all that stuff and they sell tickets. There are hundreds of different themes," explains Waters. "This year our theme is rock n' roll, so we got guitars and a bunch of stuff to put on the tables."

People buy the tickets, eat a nice meal, and the money raised from this event goes to DIFFA.

The Color + Couture is another fund-raising event the club has done. It is held every year in Kansas City, sponsoring a different charity each time. This year's charity was Synergy House for battered women. In the event, the students are paired with a product representative and given interior design materials. Students make an outfit out of those materials for a fashion show.

"Last year we had wood flooring. So we had to actually use laminate wood flooring and carpet and some other things to make an outfit and then they have a big fashion show and it raises money that way, they sell tickets," Waters explains.

IIDA, like most professional organizations, also has a code of ethics.

"It holds the standards of the profession as well as promotes it," says Waters. "It's not a union, but it will do legislation and things and government policies. They kind of watch that and make sure that interior designers are represented fairly."

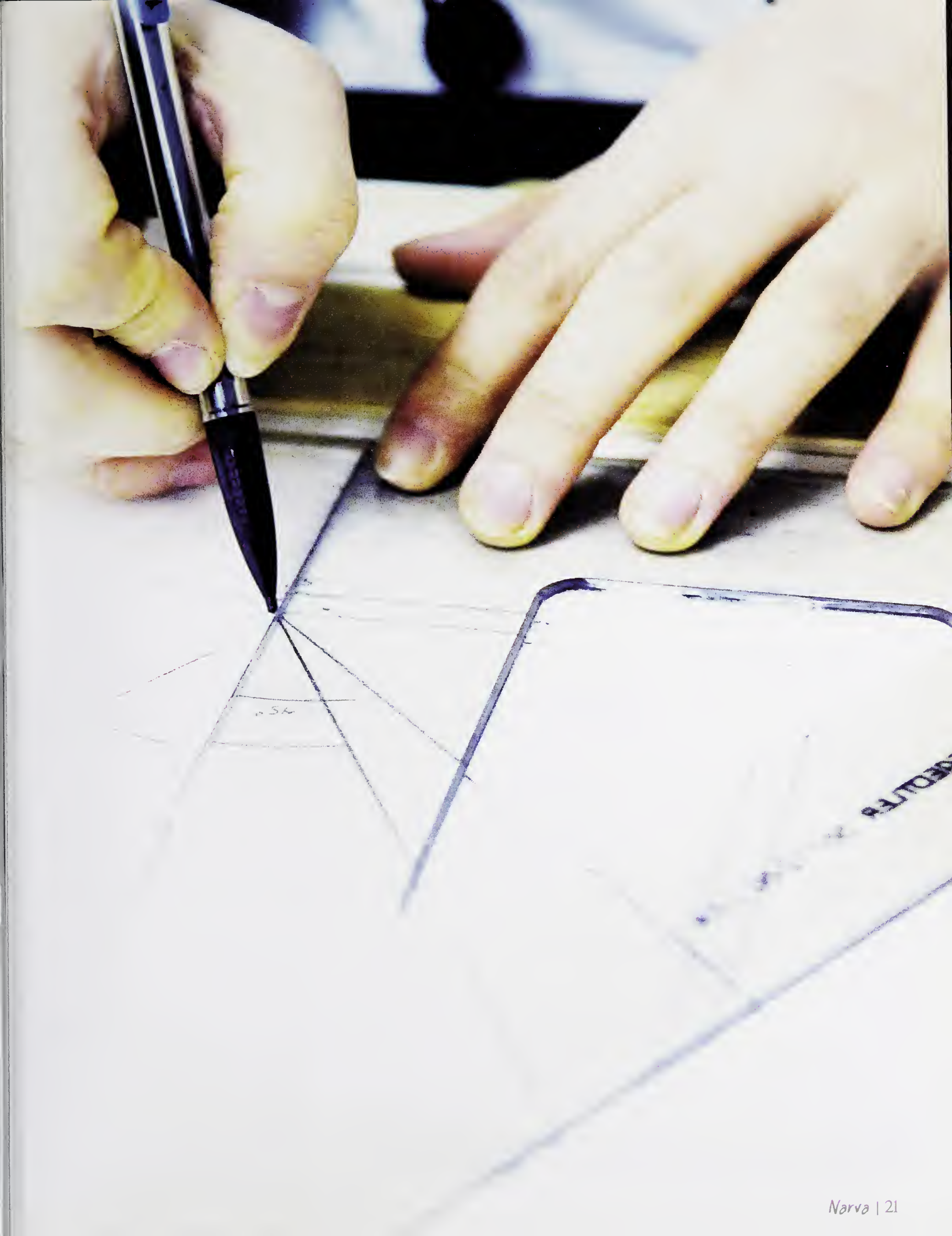
Currently there are 15 to 16 official members in the club, but anyone can attend the meetings. Usually there are about 20 to 25 people who show up. The meeting takes place the first Wednesday of every month.

IIDA is a professional organization, so students can continue to be a part of it even after they graduate. They can still attend meetings and be in the events the club holds.

"They have a publication they send out. There are different forums. There are a lot of different things you can go to as part of the IIDA," Waters says. "You pay member dues every year and you're a part of it."

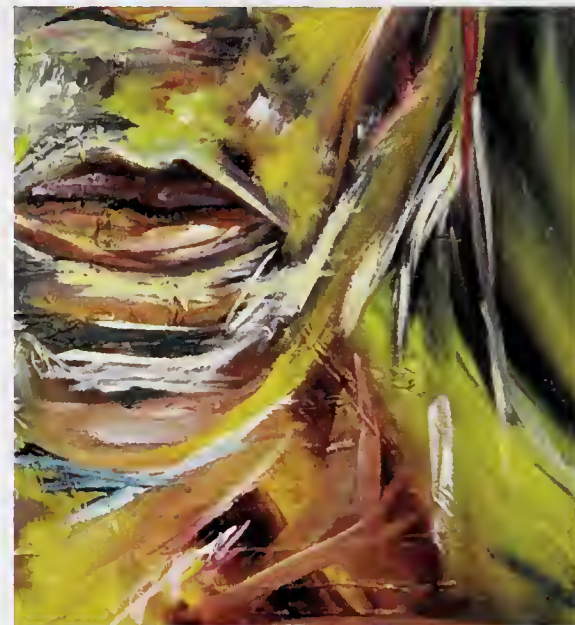
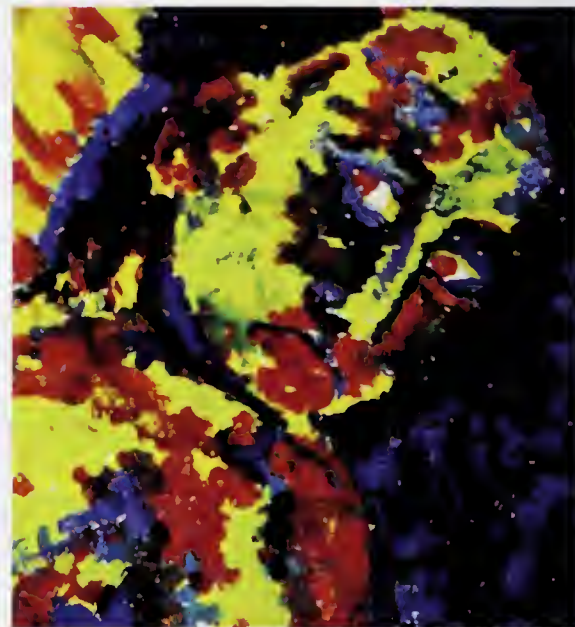
IIDA is a gateway to the professional world of interior design. It has helped her, Waters says, and it will help future interior design students get ahead as well.

BY SUSAN HARTINGTON PHOTO BY TESSA HAWOOD

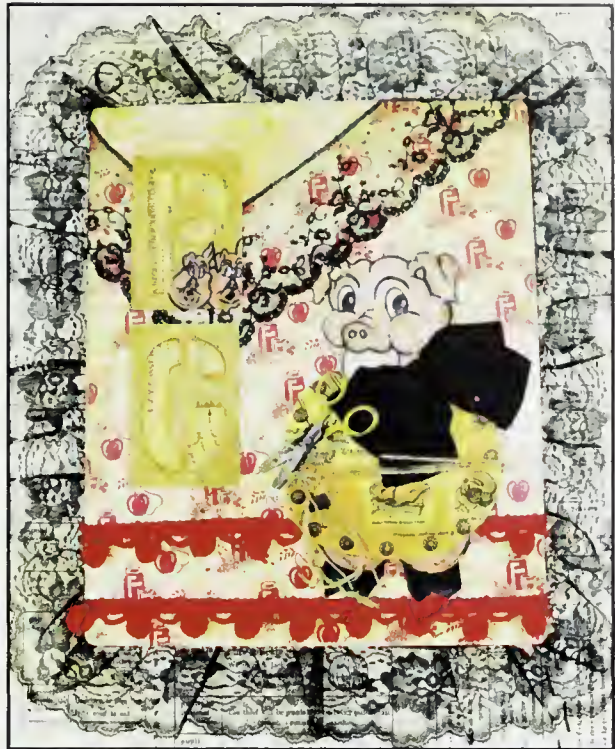


Park Artist Symposium

April 30, 2008



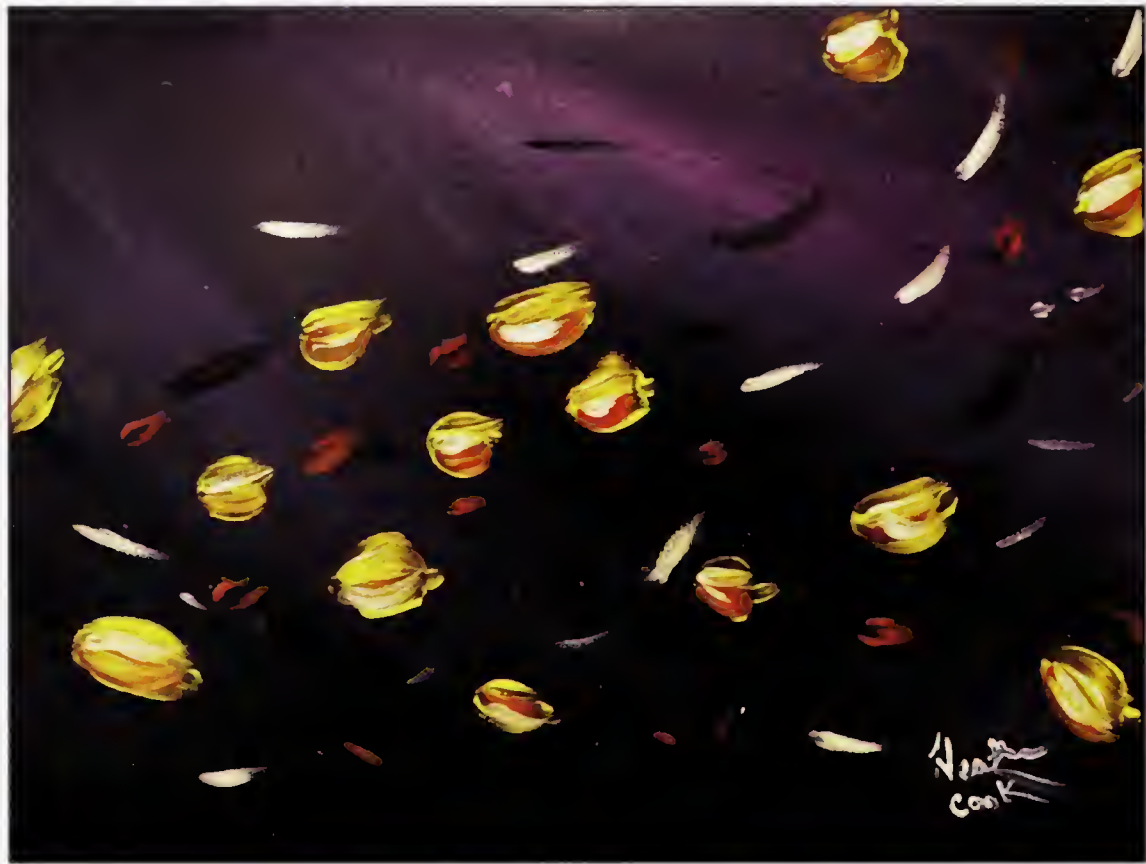
PHOTOS BY TESSA ELWOOD

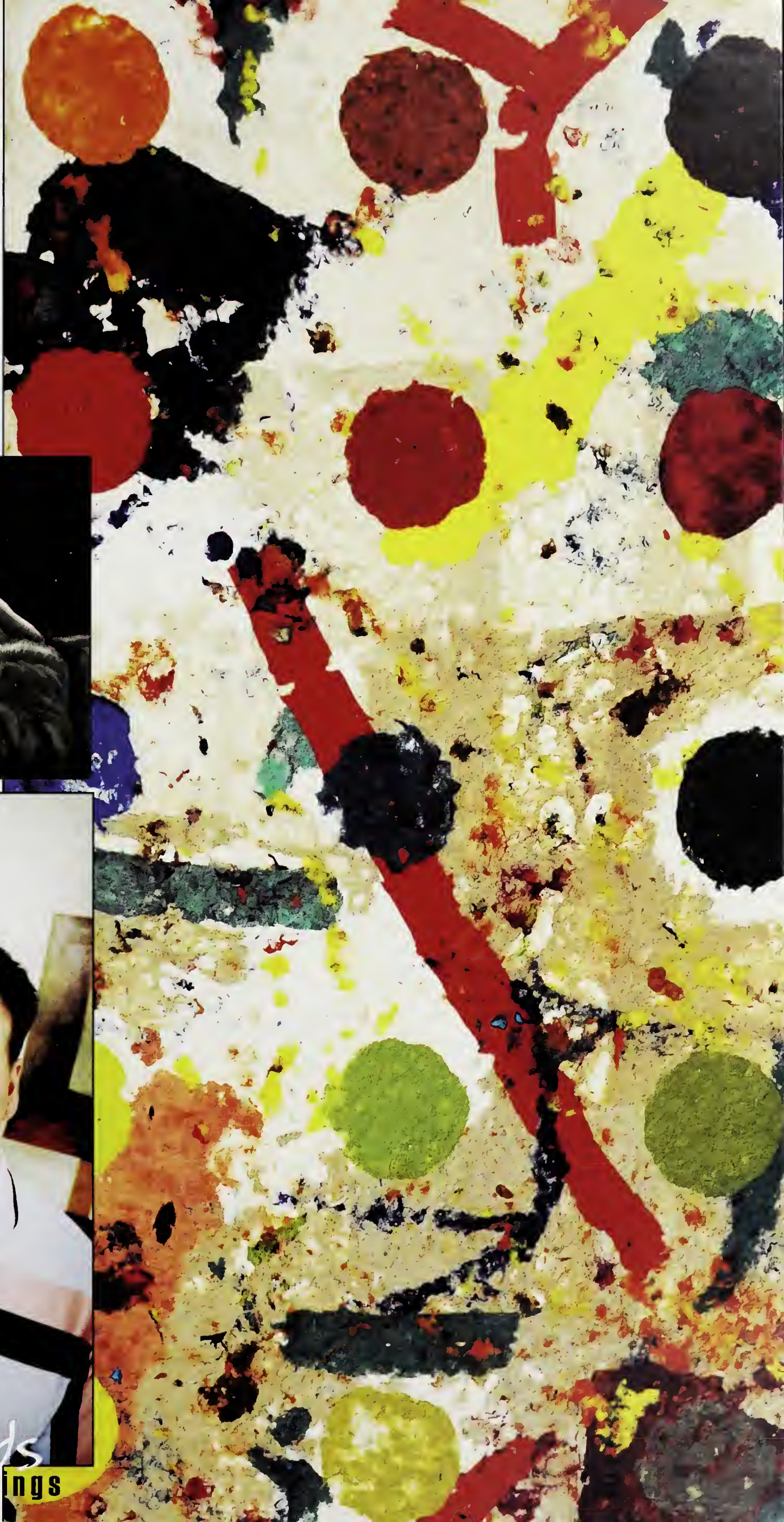


Melanie Clouser
Collage & assemblage



Heather Cook
Paintings

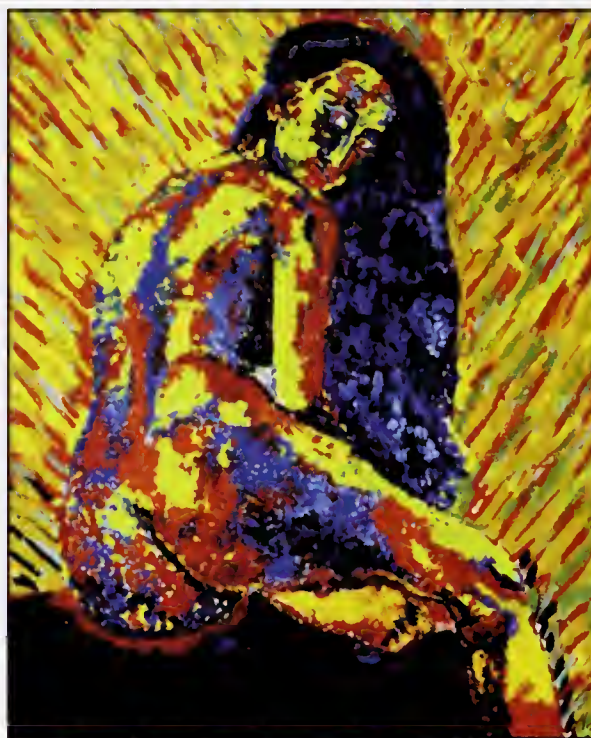




Joshua Edwards
Paintings & drawings



Aaron Ennis
Paintings



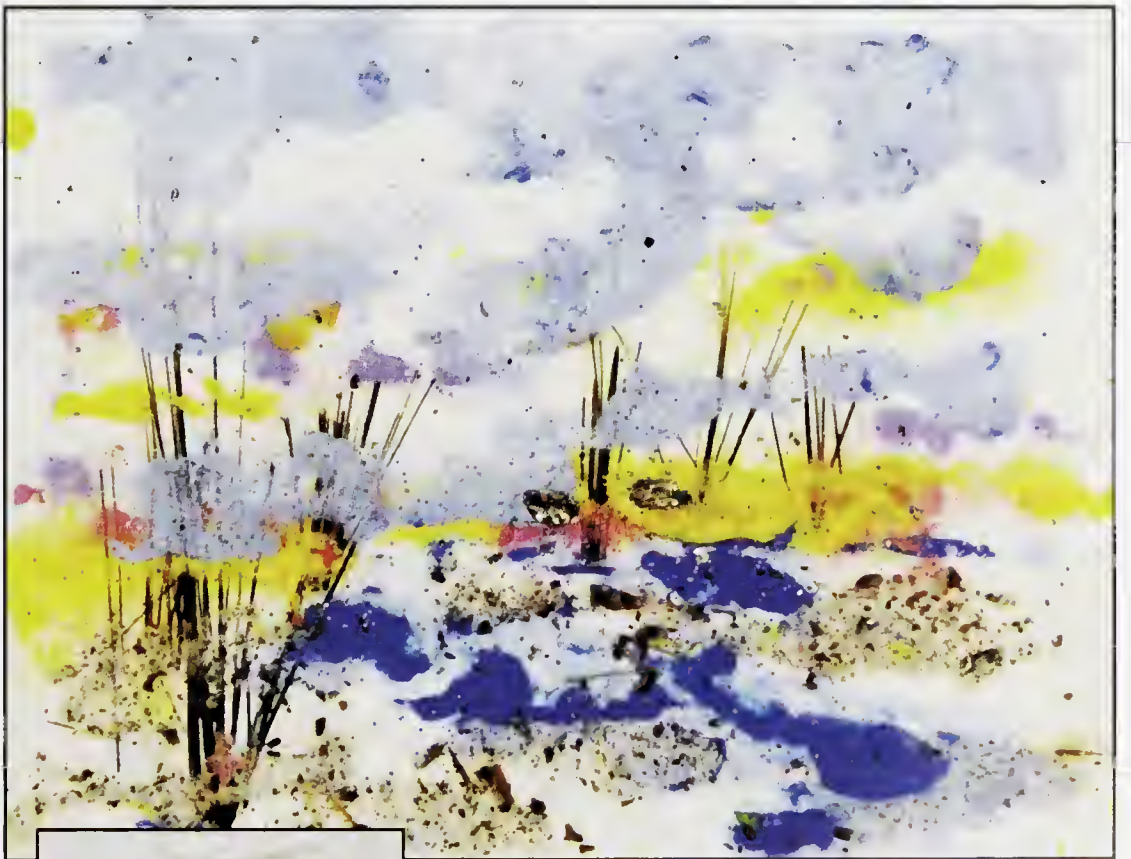
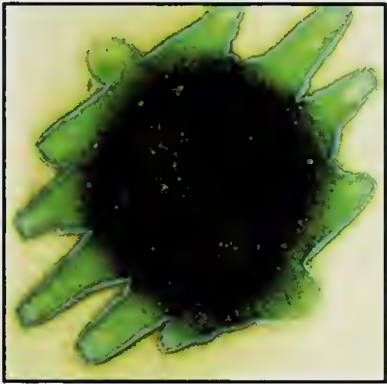


Danielle Green
Photography

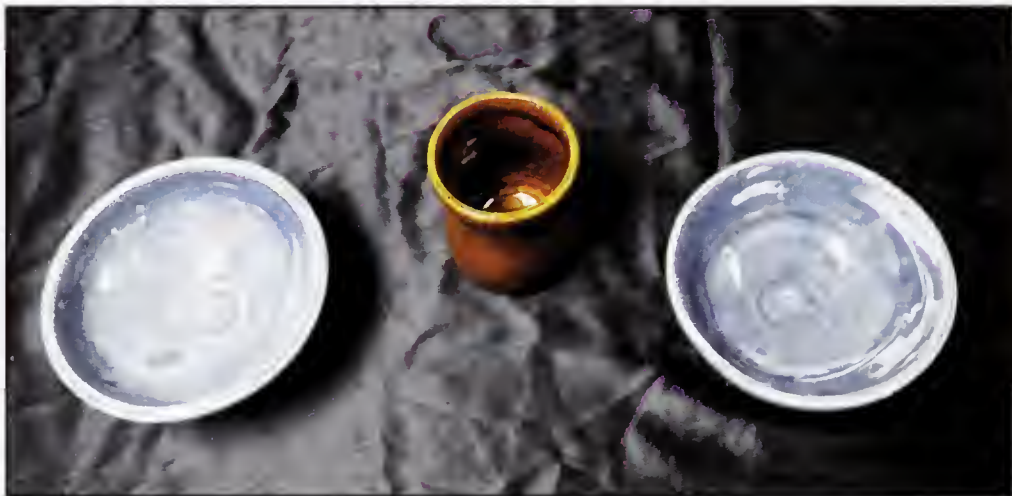
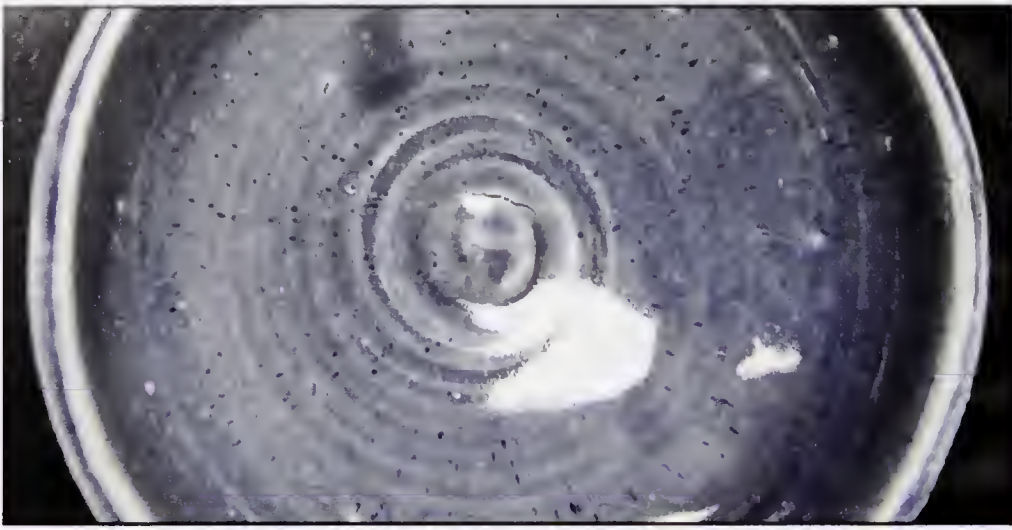


Ceramics & 3D design





Van Schoone
Fiber, ceramics & glass



Douglas Stainbrook
Ceramics

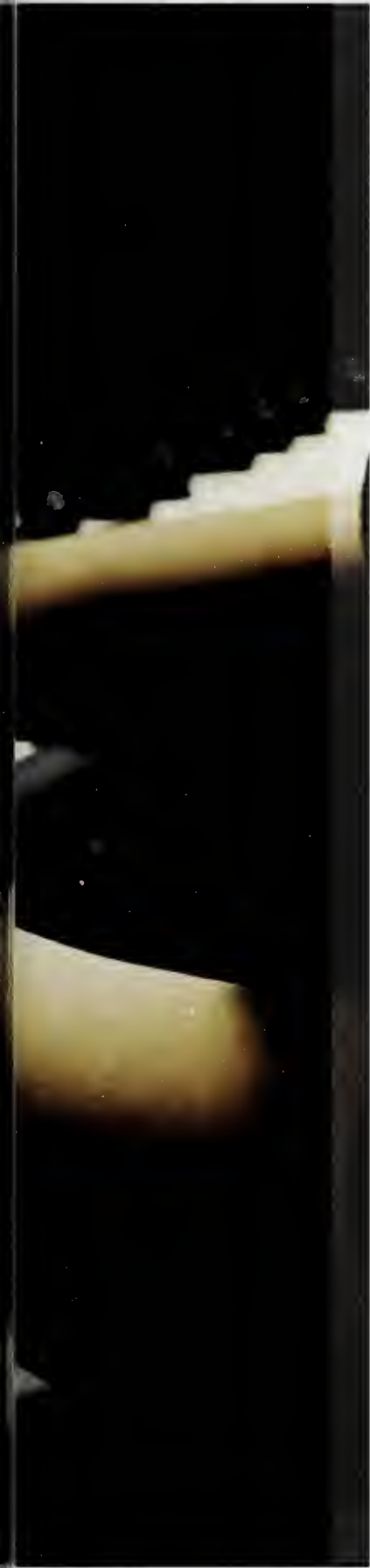




John Sutton
Painting



Music & Theater



Park University has some exciting programs in the performing arts. Both the theater and the music departments have undergone improvements in the last two years.

In the theater department, the addition of Mark Robbins, one of the top Equity Actors in the Kansas City area, to the faculty has been a great help to the theater program. Along with marsha morgan, theater performance teacher, and Jon Young, theater tech teacher, Robbins lends an additional aspect to theater education.

The music program at Park has both quality and funding. Thanks to a top-rated faculty, the school is graduating students with the skills to compete among the best. Many of the music faculty members have won top honors in their fields, including Stanislav Ioudenitch who won the Gold Medal at the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition.

Department Overview by Susan Hartington



IN THE SPOTLIGHT

BY ANGELINA RUSSO

All eyes on him, Quinn Bixler pretends to be a Catholic school boy. Tap! Tap! Tap! His feet tap to the tune and his body twirls as his melodious voice fills the auditorium. His caked-on stage make-up prevents his pores from breathing. The heat of the stage lights seems almost unbearable; although, the glare of the light eases his tension as it blocks his vision of the audience.

Some crave the spotlight—the attention, the rush, the glamour, the excitement of being on stage. At Park University, theatre gives students the chance to express themselves and gain recognition as well as become involved in school activities.

“I love the spotlight,” Bixler says. “I love getting attention and compliments.”

He began performing when he was three years old. His first experiences on stage were singing and dancing in front of his church. During his high school years, he never even knew about the theatre department until he saw a sign on the gym door. It was a flyer for the upcoming Charlie Brown play. He auditioned for the first time and got the lead of the play. After his first play, he realized that acting was something he definitely wanted to pursue.

After that, his career as an actor and performer took off. He played in many other plays such as *The Little Shop of Horrors*, *Noises Off*, and many more. Bixler is a communications major and a theatre minor at Park University. Theatre is his minor because making a living as an actor seems an unrealistic goal. However, a background in theatre helps

in a communications related career.

“When my grandma died, and I had a big show coming up, I knew the show had to go on,” Bixler says, “so, I forced myself to practice, and I drowned myself in preparation for the show. It helped me get my mind off things.”

When everything else in life is falling



"IT'S THERAPEUTIC, I LOVE TO ENTERTAIN PEOPLE."

apart, theatre gives people a chance to live the life of someone else. It gives them a chance to escape. When Bixler's grandmother died two weeks before a big performance, theatre was his chance to forget the real world. He could pretend to be another person, a person with few worries and cares.

"It helps with communications because I'm not afraid to be in front of a large group of people," Bixler says.

When the curtain goes up, actors have the chance to be another person, to see things through another's eyes, and to say things that they would not normally say.

"It's therapeutic," Bixler says, "I love to entertain people."

Months of preparation, hours upon hours of reciting lines, practicing choreography, and rehearsing songs all ends with an hour and a half presentation for three days in a row. It's seemingly ridiculous that so much time and energy was spent in order to perform for such a short amount of time. However, it meant something to the viewers. It was their entertainment. It was their chance to sit back and relax, as lights, dances, and songs tell a story, distracting them from the world outside of the auditorium. And, that is what keeps Bixler and others like him motivated.

"It's like pathos—the payoff feels so good."



Photos/Susan Hartington

Practicing for an upcoming audition at the Unicorn Theater, Quinn Bixler does the monologue "As Is" for Marsha Morgan to gain her suggestions.

DEDICATION



'MUSIC IS LIKE A DISEASE. IF IT GETS INTO YOU, THEN YOU HAVE TO DO IT.'

“**M**usic is like a disease,” says Christian Andrew Fatu, a music senior at Park University. “If it gets into you, then you have to do it.”

The violin isn't just something Fatu does. It defines who he is. Surrounded by music since birth, and having a concert cellist/teacher as a mother, Fatu didn't lead a normal childhood.

“Seeing people playing instruments all around me, got me excited to start playing the violin,” Fatu says. “In Europe if you start playing a classical instrument you usually start young.”

Fatu had his first concert at age 5. He started competing at 7 when he started school, but the countless hours practicing while his friends were playing outside wasn't easy.

“In the beginning I was really young and was not fond of practicing because I wanted to do kid stuff, but when I turned eleven all of that changed,” Fatu says.

“I had a really nice concert and it felt really good.”

Fatu had found a passion for music that exceeded all other subjects.

“I liked music as apposed to anything else like math or science,” says Fatu. “In school I really enjoyed more literature, history and language which for me went along with music.”

Fatu grew up in Romania. Training in Europe involves certain academic requirements, specific scores on exams each semester and a required amount of concerts and recitals for that specific level. While completing all of this Christian still found time for competitions.

“I won my first international prize at age 12 in Italy,” says Fatu.

Even with this much experience beforehand, high school offered Fatu a choice.

“When you enter high school you have to make a cut, and either follow music or find something else,” says Fatu, “but when I entered I knew that I wanted to pursue music and work hard to make it my profession”

During his sophomore year of high school, at age 16, Fatu made his debut with the National Radio Symphony Orchestra in Bucharest. After high school he studied his first 3 years of college in Cologne, Germany and graduated in Buchrest, Romania.

“Through college I played in countless festivals and concerts and at one particular festival I met an American teacher from New York,” says Fatu. “He got me in contact with Ben Sayevich from the music program here at Park and I sent him a demo with my material, along with my bio for being admitted and they

BY GREGORY CRAINSHAW



Photos/Tessa Elwood

Fingers running along the strings, Christian Fatu practices in the Chapel basement.

offered me a scholarship.”

Fatu had never been to the United States before.

“I knew this experience would be interesting for my education and musical development,” says Fatu.

He accepted the scholarship, came to Park, and plans to graduate in May 2008. Along with being a student and performing in 20 concerts each year, Fatu is also a teaching assistant. He has several students who keep him busy.

“The younger students at times are hard to keep focused and it reminds me of when I was young,” says Fatu.

Becoming a professional at anything requires huge commitment and hours of time.

“You must have lots of dedication, and by that I mean six, seven or eight hours of prac-

tice each day, and strong nerves to present yourself in front of an audience,” says Fatu.

“You must learn to deal with failure because many times you won’t win, but keep going and don’t be discouraged. Do it with passion.”


If someone were to offer Fatu a choice between money or playing the violin, he says he would choose the music.

“My dream is to be a professional and play for people and in concerts,” says Fatu “and for this to happen I must continue working to build a career.”

The violin has taken Fatu all around the world, and brought him to the US. Though soon to be a graduate, he will be returning to Park next fall for more study.



Student Life



The Office of Student Life at Park University provides information and services for students seeking out-of-the-classroom answers and support. Student Life covers such things as residential housing, clubs and organizations, school events, food service, intramurals, orientation and counseling. Student Life also deals with things like Pirate Connect, Pirate Grounds and Student Senate.

Student Life is a way for students to become involved on campus. One way of doing this is by joining a club and/or an organization, such as the Honor Societies, Social/Service/Leadership Clubs, Program/Subject Clubs, International Clubs, and Religious/Spiritual Clubs.

Another part of Student Life is the sponsorship of intramural events by the Park Student Government Association (PSGA) to help raise money for clubs and organizations on campus. Whichever club wins these events will get \$350 for their club as well as a club cup trophy.

The Student Conduct Code is also under Student Life. The Code offers certain laws and rules to make Park a safe environment. For instance, no theft, forgery of information, damage to school property, or being under the influence of drugs or alcohol while on school grounds is tolerated. The code was revised this year after spirited discussion.

Student Life Overview by Susan Hartington



Student activities





Talk Like a Pirate

SPIRIT OF COPLEY

BY WILLIAM DEAN



Copley Hall will never be the same. On a warm Friday afternoon in early April, Norm Robertson slipped out of his office on the second floor of Copley for the final time.

The 70-year-old media services manager has been reporting to work in the same building, a converted dorm, for nearly half his life.

He was five minutes late to the Meetin' House to greet family, faculty, and friends gathered for his retirement party.

The Meetin' House was the same building where, in July 1975, Robertson's career began. His first official assignment after being hired was a black and white video system installation there.

The departure of the first and only media services manager in the institution's history means more to students and faculty than the loss of an audio/visual engineer.

"We can replace the technician in Norm, but we'll never find anyone who lifts the entire spirit of Copley Hall like he does," says Steve Youngblood, assistant professor.

Every faculty member who spoke at the retirement gathering touched on Robertson's consistent willingness to help.

For Robertson, the philosophy is simple.

"Be willing to help in any way you can," he says. "Even if it's just replacing a screw in a piece of equipment that is about to fall down, if you can contribute a little bit it can mean a great deal."

Robertson contributed to the educational development of countless students in Copley Hall, primarily broadcasting, but public relations and journalism students as well. He contributed expertise generously to students baffled by turntables and editing machines.

"Knowing you have had a part in someone's educational development is a wonderful reward," Robertson says.

"Norm is one of the few who understood from the very beginning that we are here for the students and what they do is primary," explains Youngblood.

Robertson kept track of Park students and faculty long after they graduated. He received letters, postcards, Christmas cards and news clippings from across the country regularly from graduates and colleagues. One day would come news of a

new baby, another day a new job; one former broadcasting professor sent a clipping the day he became a community college president.

It was common for Robertson to stop faculty members in the hall with, "Do you remember so-and-so?" then fill in the details.

And all remembered a special gift Robertson developed. Robertson has always been widely known on campus for his dead-on impressions of Donald Duck.

"It's something I enjoy entertaining younger and older kids with," says Robertson with a broad smile crossing his face.

More seriously, Robertson recalled a speech delivered by the late Jerzy Hauptman one of the highlights of his career.

"Dr. Hauptman called Park a 'peculiar institution' and that always stuck in my mind," said Robertson. "He was talking about Park's progressive approach in developing global education for the students."

Robertson also took pride in a recent graduation ceremony that included two military graduates in Kuwait participating in the ceremony via live video feed.

"They got a standing ovation," Robertson says proudly.

Robertson was in the audience at Park's 2008 spring commencement but this time he could sit back and enjoy the proceedings rather than troubleshoot the audio/visual system. A stir went through the faculty section when he was spotted sitting by the side of the stage.

Linking two ends of the globe at a graduation ceremony is a long way from Robertson's Missouri roots. He grew up as one of 12 siblings near the southwest Missouri town of Mountain Grove. At 20, he returned to the area following a three year stint in the Army and began dating Sue, his wife of 47 years.

Robertson has two sons and two grandchildren he plans to devote the time afforded by retirement.

His grandchildren may benefit, but those who worked with him were already missing his smile, his Donald Duck impression, and his willingness to lend a hand just weeks after he retired.

"For two people working together for 10 years, we have seen it all and done it all hundreds of times," says Ronnie LaNear, media services assistant. "We looked forward to seeing each other everyday. It's going to be tough without him."



Class: AR251





Drawing II

2007



Park employs shuttles to bus students around since there is nowhere to park on campus.

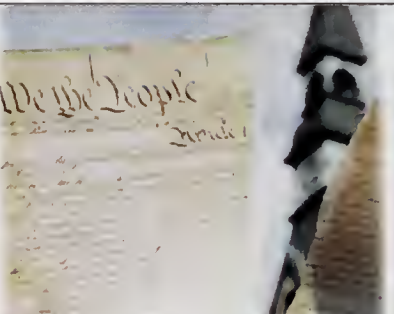
THE PARK UNIVERSITY STYLUS

Students 'sick' of absence policy

Students are tired of the absence policy and want to see it changed.



By [Name] [Date]



Harvest Fest next week

The Harvest Fest will be held on Friday, October 12th.

PROPOSED CONDUCT CODE WOULD LIMIT STUDENTS' RIGHTS

The proposed conduct code would limit students' rights and freedoms. Students are upset about the changes.

After a summer and half a semester of inactivity, construction begins on the new dorms in Copley Quad.



Students are upset about changes instituted into the Student Conduct Code.

Aug

Sept

Oct

Nov

Dec



The campus switches from Coke to Pepsi products.



MTV visits campus and encourages students to vote.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS

Norman Robertson retires after 32 years of working in audio-visual and making students smile.



Men's volleyball wins the NAIA National Championship for the second time since 2003.

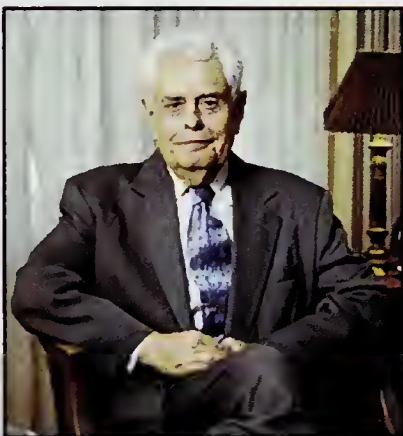
Jan

Feb

Mar

Apr

May



Jerzy Hauptmann, professor of political science and public administration at Park for over 50 years, dies on Jan. 29 to the sorrow of all.

Park's Model UN takes home two prestigious awards from the New York conference.



2008

Student activities





Texas Hold 'em

Explore

a different way of life

Many students see the weeks after midterms and finals as a chance to get away. Next year they may be offered the opportunity to do just that and experience something new at the same time. An interesting idea is brewing, one which Ann Schultis, director of library systems, describes as giving students a chance to study abroad in a way that does not include passports or expensive flights.

"Dr. Carol Getty and I are part of a group that raises funds for Native American women to attend college at two schools in South Dakota," explained Schultis. The two colleges are Oglala Lakota College and Sinte Gleska University. "The idea is to form a kind of partnership with these institutions in South Dakota that would benefit their students as well as ours."

In August 2007, a group from Park University, including Dr. Getty, criminal justice associate professor, Erik Bergrud, director of the international center for civic engagement, Diane Davis Reed, Park alumni, and Schultis, went to the colleges and discussed the possibility of collabora-



tion. What they came up with is a way to give Park students an opportunity to experience a week-long immersion into another culture.

Students would be able to see a diverse world and a different way of living. The participants in the program would potentially be visiting the selected colleges over spring break or after finals.

Getty and other interested members of faculty have developed the Lakota Education Group. This group hopes to collaborate with Oglala Lakota College and Sinte Gleska University, making the cultural exchange something that can continue to be offered to Park and Lakota students.

The trip to the schools on the Pine Ridge and Rosebud Reservations is still tentative, pending approval. The budget proposal has been submitted to Dr. Michael F. Droge, Provost & Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, and the Lakota Education Group hopes to take the first round of students later in 2008.

The trip would offer an in-depth look into Native American tribal culture far beyond what a textbook could provide. It would also give students an insight into the differences between tribal and non-tribal colleges.

As Schultis explains this new opportunity, her excitement is apparent in her

no passport needed BY RAYMOND ALVAREZ

bright eyes and expressive gestures.
“The people in these colleges are from poor economic areas,” says Schultis, “the people there have beliefs that somewhat differ from ours, and it is important to them to keep their traditions going — despite social pressure to abandon them.”

The colleges are located in a rural South Dakota with Rapid City, the biggest city in the area, more than an hour away.

“These reservations are seen as sovereign nations by the United States Government,” said Schultis, “the colleges are tribally run institutions. The difference is that both of these schools concentrate on maintaining and advancing Lakota culture and beliefs and language.”

The students at Oglala Lakota College and Sinte Gleska University may also be coming to Park as part of the exchange. A group had planned to visit Park in October 2007, but the trip had to be rescheduled.

Schultis points out that while students will not be going to another country, in many ways it is similar studying abroad - crossing the border out of American culture into a college focused on preserving an ancient way of life.



Far left: In her office, Ann Schultis discusses the new program. Photo/Tessa Elwood

Left top: Sinte Gleska University in South Dakota. Image courtesy of <http://rmm-cweb.cr.usgs.gov>



Left bottom: Oglala Lakota College, South Dakota. Image courtesy of <http://www.olc.edu>



Class: AR397A

VISUAL COMMUNICATIONS II



Park Student Government Association

KRISTI DALBERG

PHOTOS/TESSA ELWOOD



Taking it to the vote

Clunk, clunk, clunk; the wooden gavel smacks the square block. Pens begin scribbling on stacks of papers spread across tables. Limber fingers dance on the keys of laptops. The overwhelming scent of Old Spice men's cologne staggers the senses in the Louise Morden Board Room.

The clock reads 12:34 p.m. and roll call begins. Fifteen Park Student Government Association (PSGA) members line the tables, focusing on the day's agenda while listening to Rebekah A. Rose.

Rose, 19, is a junior at Park University majoring in psychology with a minor in theatre. Rose, first time president, was a write-in candidate, meaning students voted for her even though her name was not listed on the ballot.

"I felt honored," says Rose. "It was very exciting, and at the same time, I didn't want to disappoint anyone so it was scary."

The PSGA is composed of four different committees - student life, bylaws, budget, and awards and activities. Each board member is responsible for chairing one of these committees.

One major PSGA task during the 2007-2008 academic year was updating and revising the PSGA Constitution and bylaws.

"Park is different now compared to when the constitution was first written," says Eric Blair, associate director of student life. "The senate wants it to apply to the students in the future. There were many redundancies, and it just needed to be cleaned up."

On Feb. 19, 2008, the senate held a constitutional convention. Each senator was responsible for suggesting changes and potential updates.

The senate members had prepared for months, reading and editing the constitution where they saw necessary. Students' ideas varied from election procedures to campus activities to qualifications for senators.

It proved to be a tedious and challenging job. They decided to combine the rules of procedure with the bylaws, organizing the material by subject matter, into one place.

They also agreed to update the membership based on the new student life fee.

"We have been working hard on the changes in the constitution," says Rose, "and are hoping to be finished by the end of the 2007-2008 academic year."

In addition to working on the PSGA constitution, the senate members spent time allocating the funds among the school clubs and working on new initiatives.

This year, Park has done many things to demonstrate the importance of going "green." The senate considered it important to start a recycling program, which will come into effect by the end of the year.

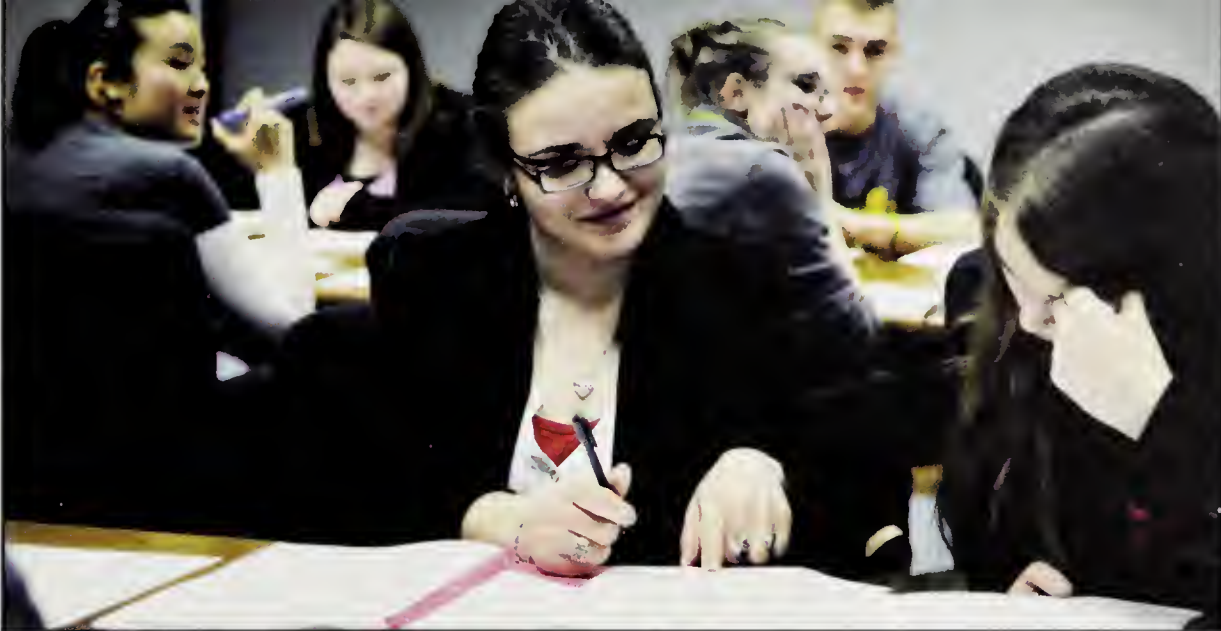
Another initiative is a "plan of operation," intended to give club officers more training. The senate believes it will be valuable both for Park and its various clubs.

They have also touched on student textbook and balance card issues. Rose says she thinks they have made progress in these areas.

The senate organized and participated in many student-focused events such as Fright Night and the Doris Howell Banquet.

Doris Howell, Park alum, donates money for an awards banquet every year to celebrate student leadership. The senate plans on taking the banquet to the next level with Kay Barnes, former Kansas City mayor, as the keynote speaker. Awards will be handed out to student leaders nominated by faculty, staff, and other students.

"I enjoy being president of the senate because I like seeing stuff get done and knowing that I had a hand in it," says Rose. "Every time a club member comes to me with a question, or there's an issue that's been taken care of, I feel really good."



Left: Looking over the paperwork, Kinuko Sato listens as a member of Campus Crusade for Christ requests \$40 for an upcoming event.

Above top: Ana Mutu takes a closer look at this week's agenda and funding information.

Above middle: Introducing each club and funding request in turn, Danny

Cunningham presides over the Budget Committee. Beside him sits the executive board. From left to right: Secretary Claralinda Mwakasungula, Vice President Lillian Madeje, and President Rebekah Rose.

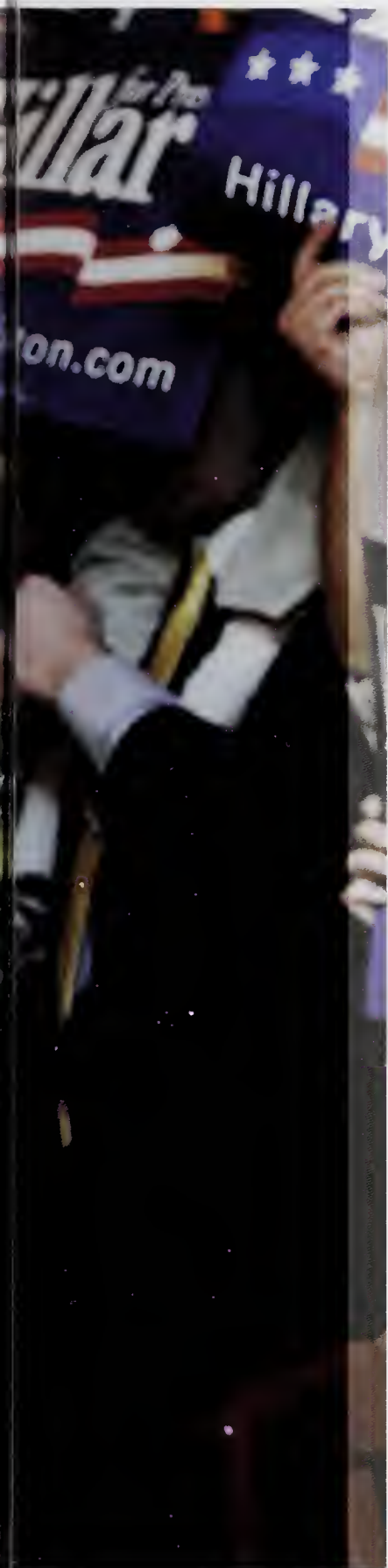
Below: Patrizia Pfefferkorn and Vusal Mammadov lean forward to listen as the final club of the day explains funding needs.





Political & Legal Studies

Jim Flink, Park adjunct professor, covering Super Tuesday for KMBC TV News, where he is an anchor.



The Park University Political Science department currently offers three areas of interest: Political Science, Legal Studies, and Public Administration. For the 2008-2009 school year the Political Science department will expand, requiring students to choose either International Political Science or American Political Science.

The Political Science department is active both on and off campus. Each year, the department's brightest participate in the Midwest Political Science Research Conference. On campus, they also held a voter registration drive and a mock primary election.

The department has its own club: the Political Science Club, and has an honors society, Pi Sigma Alpha. For honors, members must be of at least junior standing, in the top one third of their class, and political science majors.

The Legal Studies Department prepares graduates for masters programs, law school, or jobs in other legal areas.

Department Overview by Sadie Clement



Voter registration drive at Park Speak up, speak out

PHOTOS AND STORY BY SADIE CLEMENT

Classic rock billows through the radio, the smell of cafeteria food fills the air, colorful flags representing many nations hang overhead, bundled up students hustle in and out. Once in awhile, a cold burst of air comes in to rustle the ballots, otherwise it's warm.

A mock voting booth with a cardboard box and three stacks of papers stands by the door.

A couple of students walk by.

"Are you registered to vote," Darrin Manna, a Park University senior calls out to them. "Yes," one of them responds. "Well you wanna vote in our mock election then?" Manna asks.

Manna hands them a ballot. The ballot has two columns: a democrat side with John Edwards and Dennis Kucinich crossed off, and a republican side with Rudy Giuliani crossed off. Voters are instructed to choose one candidate for the 2008 presidential nomination of each party.

Javier Centonzio, a Park junior and a United States marine who served 15 months in Iraq, organized a two-day mock election and voter registration drive, with the help of the political studies department. Every student, international or domestic, had the opportunity to have his or her voice heard.

"As a military member who's gone to fight and given others the right to vote, I feel it's the least we can do to promote democracy," Centonzio says. "In this community, many great men and women died to give us the right to vote. It's a vital piece of democracy."

Manna agrees. "It's absolutely important that students register to vote," Manna says, "with the situation in Iraq, and the economy, the most effective way of sending a message of our wishes up to the top is through voting for our political

candidates who share our ideals."

According to research released by the Center for Information & Research on Civic Learning & Engagement (CIRCLE), since 1972 youth voter registration rates have increased from one presidential election to the next, with one exception in 1996. The registration rate for voters ages 18 to 29 reached an all-time high of 70 percent for the 2004 presidential election.

"With recent polls showing the Iraq war, the economy, and jobs are major issues for young voters and the trends in youth voting, registration rates for 2008 should reach new

highs," said CIRCLE Director Peter Levine. "With more than 41 million potential young voters, it will be critical for candidates to mobilize this key voting bloc."

This is good news for Barack Obama, the Democratic candidate for the president who secured the nomination in June. According to the *Houston Chronicle* "most often, youthful voters go for Obama — polls show he generally wins 65 percent of their vote."

In the Park cafeteria it's lunchtime, and students flow in and out, some stopping by to vote, others stop to ask questions, talk politics, and register to vote.

A group of three Kenyan students walk by, and Manna asks them if they would like to vote. They say that they are not citizens and cannot vote, but Manna tells them they can vote. They excitedly fill out their ballots.

Lyman Rickman, a freshman, registers to vote. When asked if she would have registered otherwise, she responds, "Yes, I would have registered otherwise, I just don't know when I would have. This is a lot more convenient."

In all, the political studies department, helped 26 Missouri and 13 Kansas residents get registered to vote. In addition, 142 Park students cast their votes in the mock election.

THE PARK PRIMARY RESULTS ARE IN:

DEMOCRATS

(98 total votes or 69% of all ballots cast)

Barack Obama: 80 votes (82%)

Hillary Clinton: 18 votes (18%)

REPUBLICANS

(41 total votes or 29% of all ballots cast)

John McCain: 13 votes (32%)

Mike Huckabee: 12 votes (29%)

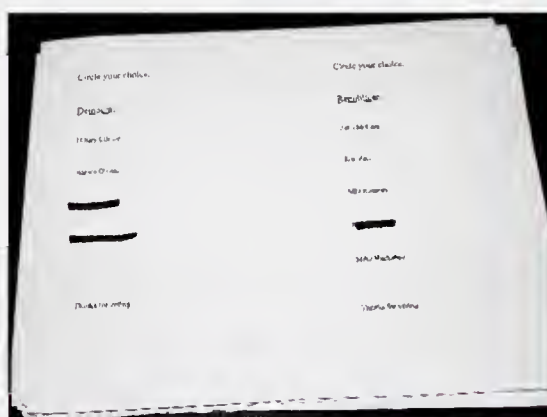
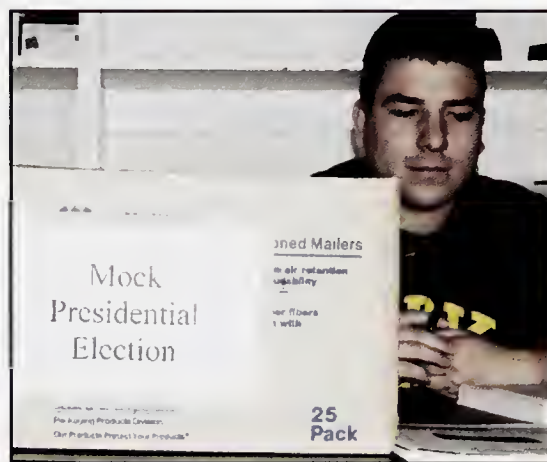
Ron Paul: 11 votes (27%)

Mitt Romney: 5 votes (12%)

WRITE-INS

3 ballots wrote in other candidates. These constituted 2% of all ballots cast.





With voter forms and registration papers spread out on the table, Javier Centonzio sits in Thompson and encourages students to vote.

PHOTOS & STORY

PROFESSIONAL

BY SADIE CLEMENT

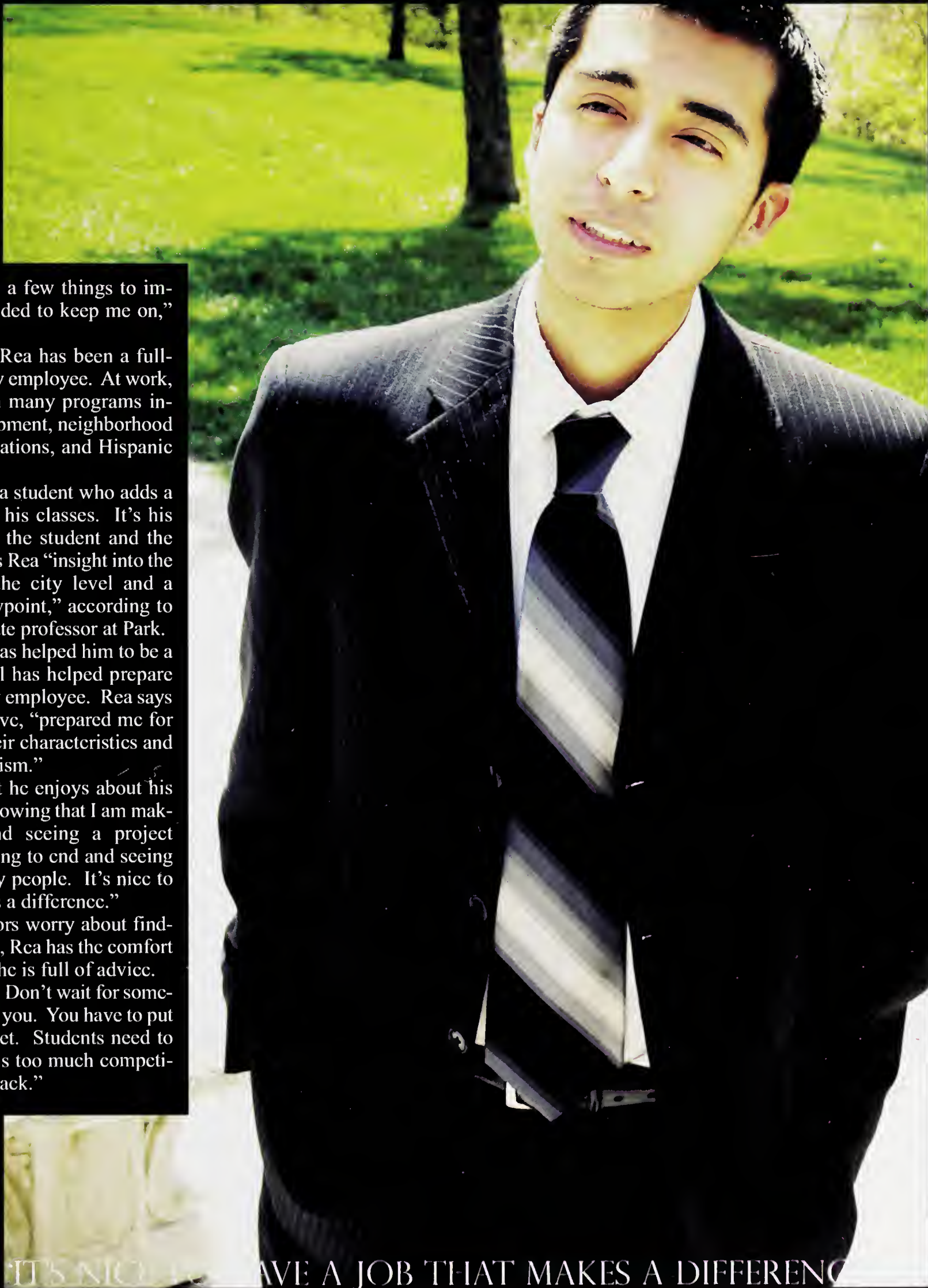
Crispin Rea hasn't even graduated and already he has the dream job of every young political science grad. Sitting at a table at the Pirate Grounds, Rea doesn't really look like other students either. While students are coming and going, sitting around chatting, playing ping pong, and carrying cumbersome backpacks, Rea is all business. Dressed in a full suit and tie, Crispin looks more professional than anyone in the building, including some of the administration and professors.

Rea is a Park University senior majoring in Political Science, but his official title is Assistant to the Mayor. Rea began officially working for the mayor on May 1, when Mayor Funkhouser took office.

Rea's mom sparked an interest in civics. She was very active in her neighborhood and encouraged Rea to be involved too. Rea spent a lot of time while growing up volunteering, tutoring at the housing projects and community centers.

Rea's first brush with big politics was in 2000, in high school, when he volunteered for the Charles Shields campaign. From his work with the Shields campaign, Rea says he learned a lot about politics, and it eventually led him to volunteer for Funkhouser's campaign where he could put his knowledge to practical use.





"I was able to do a few things to impress him, so he decided to keep me on," says Rea.

For the last year Rea has been a full-time student and a city employee. At work, Rea is involved with many programs including youth development, neighborhood advocacy, communications, and Hispanic affairs.

At school, Rea is a student who adds a real world insight in his classes. It's his combination of both the student and the professional that gives Rea "insight into the political system at the city level and a unique insider's viewpoint," according to James Pasley, associate professor at Park.

While Rea's job has helped him to be a better student, school has helped prepare him to be a better city employee. Rea says the people at Park have, "prepared me for the job because of their characteristics and because of their idealism."

When asked what he enjoys about his job, Rea answers, "knowing that I am making a difference and seeing a project through from beginning to end and seeing its effects on so many people. It's nice to have a job that makes a difference."

While many seniors worry about finding a job after college, Rea has the comfort of job stability. Still, he is full of advice.

"Don't hold back. Don't wait for something to come back to you. You have to put yourself on the market. Students need to prepare now. There is too much competition, you can't hold back."

IT'S NICE TO HAVE A JOB THAT MAKES A DIFFERENCE



Park Students Go behind bars

BY SADIE CLEMENT

Students from Park University's Media and the Law, a course, team taught by Steve Youngblood and Carol Getty, spent an afternoon locked-up at Leavenworth Prison to find out what the inside of a prison is really like. Prisoners built the Leavenworth Prison in the late 1800s and the first prisoners inhabited the prison in 1903. Built to resemble the U.S. Capitol, the prison has a regal appearance; the only indication of its true purpose is the barbed wire and bars.

Leavenworth prison has housed several infamous criminals, including the Birdman of Alcatraz, Thomas Silverman, Byron "Bam" Morris, and most recently Michael Vick.

The students were told to dress modestly, professionally, and wear shoes you can run in. Comforting right?

The students were given a two-hour, guided tour of the prison. The tour went through a series of two

sets of bars. With each clank of the bars closing, the students were deeper into the prison.

In the middle of the prison is the rotunda, with a guard desk in the center. Each cell block is set off to a side, like spokes of a wagon wheel. The floors are marble and the rotunda has grand, white columns.

The prisoners were free to roam about and walk shoulder to shoulder with the Park students; however they maintained a respectful distance.

The tour began in the rotunda and proceeded into cell block A, where in 1973 an inmate stabbed Corrections Officer Wayne Selle to death. Cell A was renovated over twenty years ago and today's prisoners were busy washing laundry and watching TV.

The tour then led to the cafeteria. The day's menu was hamburgers and tater tots. The guard leading the tour said the most dangerous place in the prison, contrary to popular belief, is the cafeteria. This is the only time and place all Leavenworth's

All photos were collected by Kenneth Lamaster and feature Leavenworth



prisoners are in the same area.

After a few tense minutes in the cafeteria, the students headed to the yard outside. The yard is little more than some walking paths, basketball goals, and green spaces. On this cold, drizzly day, only about a handful of prisoners were outside.

The next leg of the tour brought students to an abandoned part of the prison called the "hole," which once housed the Birdman of Alcatraz and Thomas Silverman. The hole looks desolate with cement beds, resembling a haunted house at Halloween.

Once back inside, Park students visited Cell Blocks C and D. Cell Block D once housed Cuban refugees and has not been renovated. The cell block structure gave Leavenworth its title. In the hothouse years before air conditioning, the cement levels of the prison held

stifling summer, Kansas heat.

The tour was a follow up to a book students read. "The Hot House," by Pete Early, tries to dispel some of the myths about prisons and prisoners. Stefanie Jones, a Park junior, says, "the prison was not what I expected at all. In a way I guess it is a good thing that it is not what I expected, because I had thought

before of a prison being a lot worse than what it truly was. I was very surprised."

Youngblood says that is the point. "I think the students got a

great deal out of the trip," he explains. "They were understandably apprehensive before they went in, but seemed to be a little more at ease once we were inside. It was interesting to hear the students comment that they thought inside would be a constant cauldron of violence, which, of course, is not the case."

'It was interesting to hear the students comment that they thought inside would be a constant cauldron of violence, which, of course, is not the case.'



Prison. Images courtesy of Lamaster and are used with his permission.



Communication Arts



The Communication Arts degree offers five concentrations: journalism, photojournalism, public relations, broadcasting, or communication theory and human relations.

Students have various opportunities to practice their skills within the department. Journalism and photojournalism majors can work for The Stylus, Park's student newspaper, where students can write, edit, layout and design. For broadcasting majors the university radio station KGSP-FM is a good place to start, as it is managed and run by students. Also the Northland News, Park's cable TV channel 25, allows television broadcast students to practice their skills with newscasts and other programming.

Students work at these places for class credit and to get hands-on experience. Students also get several employment opportunities through work study.

The Public Relations majors get hands-on experience in PR classes by producing different PR projects as assignments. The Communication Theory and Human Relations major is designed to train students in many diverse fields in human resources, from marketing to management. In the senior project, students can come up with their own ideas for assignments with teacher approval. Communication Connection offers a variety of service opportunities.

Department Overview by Susan Hartington



CARIN

Erinn Eileen Duprey sits at the back of her computer class, looking up now and then to chuckle at the instructor's jokes. She carries on a side conversation with a classmate as the instructor lectures over networking technology. The classmate needs her expertise in the area of keeping bala sharks as pets, making the distraction from her studies necessary.

"They get too big," Duprey says. "Start smaller, but don't get the goldfish. Whatever you do, don't get the goldfish."

Next to Duprey sits another classmate, a girl who hardly says a word. She has just moved to Parkville from Africa, and is still struggling with English. Duprey shares her book, and leads the girl through the assigned lesson activity in Microsoft Access. They work together, step-by-step, until it is complete and has been clicked into the online drop box for grading. Worry slips from the girl's face. Her smile blooms as she

Duprey's heels. It didn't take long for the little rat to win his master's heart. Soon, Duprey decided to get Boogey a friend, and adopted a second disabled rat named Nova to keep him company.

"After that, the reject rats seemed to follow me home," Duprey says. "I went from one rat to twelve in two years."

But it was number 13, Bindi the rat, who is her favorite. Little Bindi had severe health problems. A large, grape-sized abscess was growing behind her ear, and the veterinarian was forced to slice the tiny rat down to her skull to remove the infection. The surgery left a trail of white in her blue fur where the incision was made, and created another bigger problem – her head was permanently tilted 45 degrees to the right. But this didn't stop Duprey from taking her home.

One weekend, Duprey's mother came to Kansas City for a visit. Apprehensive about meeting her daughter's rodents, the first thing out of her mouth when she saw Bindi was "keep it away

timate rat compliment."

When Monday came, Duprey's mother said goodbye to Erinn and the dogs only after she bid adieu to little Bindi. Duprey says it is not hard to understand how someone like her mom can so quickly and easily outgrow their squeamish fear of rats.

"The most charming thing about rats is they are very similar to dogs in a lot of ways," she says. "They are social animals, and like each other and people. They can learn tricks, they have good temperaments, and they can tolerate a lot of rough handling, so you can play with them."

Duprey's interest as a pet owner extends to more than rats.

"There's a girl at work that wants to set me up with this guy," she explains. "Her big plug to get me to go out with this guy was telling me that he likes fish, and has a lot of aquariums. That was enough for me to turn him down. I don't need any help turning my home into an aquatic exhibit, thanks. I'm



MERITS

thanks Duprey.

Duprey grins back at her, saying, "See? That wasn't bad. It was horrible."

Duprey is a junior majoring in communications with a soft spot for those in need of help, as her 13 pet rats can testify.

It all started with Boogey, an unadoptable rat at the Petsmart where Duprey works. Boogey was missing toes, so Duprey brought him home. Otherwise Boogey would have been "put to sleep" because he wasn't perfect. Amputees don't sell.

It took a few days for Boogey to venture out of his cage, but then his adventurous spirit got the best of him and he took off around the house at

from me." Much to her dismay, this was not to be. Bindi was unable to live with the other rats because of her physical condition, and so was allowed to freely roam the house and play with the family's dogs and any willing human.

"By the end of the weekend, the little rat was following my mom around like a tiny dog," Dupree says. "She even bestowed on Mom a great rat honor."

That Sunday night, as mother and daughter sat on the couch watching CSI, a shrill "Erinn! She's biting me!" rang out through the living room. Duprey turned to see little Bindi nibbling her mother, and laughed.

"I explained to mom that she was now an honorary rat, and was being groomed," Duprey says. "It was the ul-

doing just fine with that on my own."

You might ask why Duprey thinks a couple more fish tanks could turn her Mission, Kans., home into an aquarium. In addition to her 13 rats and 2 dogs, she also has 9 aquariums which hold several kinds of fish and various plants. Her tanks range in size from a 2 gallon just big enough for a small beta fish, to an 80-gallon custom made aquarium.

Working in the fish department at Petsmart, it seemed logical to Duprey that she would not be able to advise people on how to keep a fish tank if she did not know how to run one herself. So she began with a small set-up, and soon found herself wading in a sea of fish keeping accessories and supplies for which her employee discount has saved her a small fortune.



'IF PEOPLE DON'T MIND A BIT OF CYNICISM, THEY COME TO ME FOR ADVICE'

"What I didn't realize was how illogical MTS is," Dupree says. "MTS means multiple tank syndrome in fish keeper speak. There's always more fish to keep, so you're always going to need a ton of separate set-ups to keep everyone happy."

Her fish come in many shapes and sizes, but her favorites are the cichlids, of which she has 13 different species. The tiniest among them are 2 inches long, while the biggest grow to almost a foot in length.

Duprey knows a lot about being a pet owner. She started early. When she was 5 years, she bought a pet snake. Later, when she was 14, she was finally allowed to have a dog.

"I wanted to do it right, so I volunteered at an animal shelter for months, waiting for the right one," she says. "That's where I found Shadow. She's an old geezer now, turning the corner on 13. Since then I've worked at sev-

eral animal rescues. I've found that I'm not a big people person, so animals are a nice alternative some days."

Duprey describes herself as an "old soul." Someone who is mature for their age.

"I have a lot of wisdom," she says. "If people don't mind a bit of cynicism, they come to me for advice. Sometimes I find myself intolerant of my age group because I don't really like the things they do - like crowds, loud noises, alcohol, or bright lights. I like book stores."

According to Duprey, some of her favorite people to spend time with are the characters in the stories she writes. She is an avid reader and a fan-fiction writer. She says she may have been predisposed to inheriting the literary gene, since her mother is a journalist.

"I never wanted to be a writer," she says. "I just did it, and then I found that I liked it. It

was convenient when I realized I was fairly good at it. It's nice to write up words, and characters, and scenarios, and have people read what you've created. It's even better when they like it."

Duprey's hair is short, brown and parted in the middle. The way it curls under her ears makes her look younger than her 23 years. She has a small frame, but a big voice; she sounds like a New Yorker when she gets going. One might assume she is quiet. But talk to her and you'll find out she doesn't fit your first assumptions.

Instead, her dry humor has a sarcastic bite that could be likened to British comedy. She is friendly. Warm. To all those considered the underdog, four-legged and otherwise, Duprey is a willing ally.

"I am not particularly useful in most situations, but I have my merits occasionally."



Dr. Lora Cohn's Office

BY GABRIELA SATHES

Shoulder by shoulder, students gather in the 7-by-15-foot office. Their laughter thickens the air as they discuss the Communication Connection's upcoming events and plans for the semester. Thirty minutes later the office is nearly empty, its sole resident sitting by her desk, hunched over students' papers. She lifts her head as a knock on the door echoes around the hallway shaped room.

Anthony Hardwick marches in the office, huffing as he falls on a chair and pours out his frustrations about class and work.

Five minutes later, Rusty Norris joins in the conversation on his way to teach his interviewing class.

Merrill Atwater peeks in through the crack of the door and says hi, just as Lavinia Vaitai excuses her way through him and into the room.

The Mackay bells faintly announce one forty-five and, for some students, nearly class time. Students throw their bags over their shoulders and the room quickly empties again.

The eye goes on. The faces



change. The stories change. One thing, however, stays the same.

Copley 9-N, also known as Dr. Cohn's office.

Dr. Lora Cohn, assistant professor and director of the master's in communication and leadership program, arrived at Park University in August 2005, but Copley had a slight problem.

"There was no office space at Copley," Cohn says. "But Dr. Mark Noe (Associate Dean, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences) wanted me to be at Copley with other Communication faculty. So they reduced the size of the TV studio and I got my office. That's why it looks like a bowling alley. Sometimes I feel like I should put some bowling pins by the doorway so we can all play."

This 105-square-foot office is crowded with two desks, three chairs, three bookshelves, a file cabinet, a closet and a small refrigerator. However, it still has space for an average of 20 daily visitors, from students to faculty.

"It all began once I taught major classes like interviewing and editing," Cohn says with a smile. "Undergraduate students



started finding me. Once I started working with the Communication Connection club, more and more students started to come by."

Many students have to spend an entire day on campus, either in class, researching, studying or working. Class availability hardly allows students to have a schedule which fulfills their time back to back, creating gaps between classes. For some students, those gaps are spent in Copley 9-N.

"Well, I only stop to exploit her chocolate," says Hardwick with a laugh. He is Cohn's work study and a communication arts student. "Now seriously, I have spent time in this office way before I even worked with Dr. Cohn. Every time I have a gap between classes, I stop and talk, sit or eat. Sitting here and talking is probably one of the best moments of my day here at Park. I've learned a lot from the conversations I've had. I get different insights from professors, students, staff. It's like

an extension of class, but much more casual and fun."

Hardwick scrunches his face as he realizes he is late for class. He complains he has no time to eat, so Cohn offers him some of the left over crackers from the Communication Connection meeting. Hardwick takes back his seat and tells Cohn about the plans for Communication Week. Rolling her eyes, Cohn rushes him out of the office and to class.

"Students sometimes stop by to say hi, but then they take a seat and end up nearly late for class," Cohn says and laughs as Hardwick exits the office, nearly bumping into a tall, blonde, formally dressed student.

Merrill Atwater is a graduate student at Park University. He says hi to Cohn and asks for a look at her Communication Quarterly journals.

"It might sound geeky, but I love these journals," he says as he flips through pages of the publication. He lifts it up and asks if he could borrow it. Cohn nods her head and he smiles, before thanking her and exiting the room.

The three bookshelves hold

about 500 journals or books about communication, psychology, media and TV production among other communication related sources. They are a valuable resource to the students stopping by for advice on their senior projects and graduate work.

"They come for advice or to brainstorm," Cohn says. "When we come up with something, I try to find a book to help them with their project. I like to have a nice collection in here. I've lost count of how many books I have, but if you think this is a lot, you should see my basement."

A knock on the door announces Nia Vaitai, an undergraduate Communication Arts student. She says hi and asks Cohn how Communication Connection is doing.

"I'm in Copley every day," Vaitai says. "I stop by all the time, usually between classes, to check on Communication Connection or to chat."

Cohn is the advisor for the Communication Connection club, a student club focused on the various aspects of communication.

"Some of the meetings even

happen here," Cohn says. "It's a small office, but we find ways to fit everyone in. Members usually stop by to get updates, club assignments or just to talk."

The Mackay bells ring five times on a Friday afternoon. Cohn finishes correcting online graduate student work and is finally done for the day.

"I like students here at Park," Cohn says as she puts on her coat. "They are more adult than usual. They are more mature and open-minded and I like to talk to them. My husband says that's why it takes me so long to get things done. But I think it's important to give them this space. I am happy to share my office with the students."

Cohn walks down her bowling alley towards the doorway. As she steps out, the North part of Copley Hall is at its quietest moment of the day. A click echoes and Copley 9-N is locked and ready to hibernate for the weekend. Silence falls upon it, for once in a whole day.



LAUGHTER

BY REBECCA JOHNSON

Shaylee Henning is wearing oversized sunglasses, tight jeans, and a big smile. A movie star going incognito for the day. Only the textbooks she holds give her away as a college student. Park University might be her last stop on the road to Nashville.

Her MySpace photo albums are filled with pictures of Henning arm in arm with country music celebrities. Taylor Swift, Toby Keith, Kellie Pickler, Garth Brooks – she has met them all, and most remember her name.

How did the girl who got picked on every day in class for liking country music start bumping elbows with the hottest stars in the industry? Henning says it has a lot to do with being in the right place at the right time.

Henning was born in India 21 years ago and adopted by American parents at 4 months old. They brought her to the United States, and raised her in Minneapolis, Minn., where they lived until a job transfer in 2000 brought them to Kansas City.

“There’s no great story about how I came to be at Park,” she says. “It happened naturally. It’s a school that is close to home, and I had always heard great things about it, so I thought I would check it out. I’m glad I did. Being a student here has changed my life in so many ways.”

A self-proclaimed “people person,” Henning has gained much at Park she says is priceless. Friends. Perspective. Career.

“I knew I wanted to do something in the media field because I love music and movies,” she says. “I wanted to be involved in the entertainment industry somehow, but I didn’t have a clue how to make that happen. Since I can’t sing – and I mean really can’t sing, Public relations seemed to be the most obvious choice to get me into that line of work.”

During her first semester, Henning met Natalie Puhr, a fellow Communications student, and Pirate Radio disc jockey. Puhr’s brassy sense of humor, and Henning’s bubbly charisma went hand-in-hand, and soon the two were inseparable.

“Shaylee has a big heart, and she loves with every inch of it,” Puhr says. “She’s probably the most kind-hearted person I know. She’s the girl that always knows when you need to be cheered up, or always has just the right thing to say. It’s no surprise that she’s one of my very best friends. She’s a great person.”

Henning doesn’t like to talk about herself, and needs a lot of prodding before she thinks

of something to say.

“Ya know, I really don’t know if I’m all that special,” Henning says. “More than anything I just want to make people happy. If I can make someone else smile or laugh – then I feel like I’ve made a difference toward making the world a better place. I work hard, and I don’t stress the small things. I love to laugh and I do it often, and I think that’s what makes me who I am.”

And Henning and Puhr practice laughing every chance they get.

“Shaylee has this thing where, wherever we go, we have to do a photo shoot,” Puhr says. “We must have at least a million goofy pictures together.”

In many of their photos, the girls make “fish faces,” and Puhr goes cross-eyed – their favorite funny style. The girls are often together at school and work – where Puhr helped jumpstart Henning’s PR career.

Puhr was working at Young Country 104.3FM Q104 as an intern on their morning and afternoon radio programs. When an opportunity opened up for “Q104 cowgirl” at the station, she put in a good word for Henning. Being a “cowgirl” is essentially like being a cheerleader for the station, representing Q104 at PR and charity events.

“Shaylee has the looks and the personality for it,” another friend, Sinclair Toman, says. “I wasn’t at all surprised when she told me she’d been picked. Of course she was picked. It’s so her.”

Going to country concerts is one of Henning’s favorite pastimes, and now it is also in her job description. Getting tickets to the hottest show in town is included in the paycheck, and going backstage is all in a day’s work.

“I’ve been made the promotions assistant for the station now, and I absolutely love it,” she says. “I get to spend time with Natalie, I get to meet celebrities, and I get real life PR experience. It’s awesome. This is giving me a great chance to network with people in the music industry and figure out what I want to do with the rest of my life.”

What might that be? Well, she is not quite sure yet, but Henning says we might turn on the TV someday and see her on E! News.

“Reality TV and celebrity gossip are my weaknesses,” Henning says. “I would absolutely love to be a reporter and give you the daily dirt on your favorite celebrities. Maybe I could put my gift for gab to good use there.”

Henning is already getting some practice. Before the recent Rascal Flatts concert at the



Sprint Center, Q104 hosted a pre-show party and she was in on the action.

"We were doing a live broadcast, and we were going to have the opening act, Jason Aldean, come in and do a quick interview and sign a few autographs," Henning explains. "I was lucky enough to be the one chosen to go pick him up from his tour bus and bring him back, and it was really cool to get to hang out with him in such a laid back, normal kind of way. We ended up talking about how his daughter is so excited for Hannah Montana to come to Nashville...he is less than thrilled."

When Henning's day is over, she goes home to her puppies.

"I have a big one named Shadow," she says. "He is a Rottweiler Golden Retriever mix. He's a big 70 pound puppy that thinks he's small, and the best dog you could ever ask for. My other little one is my baby, Randa. She's a tri-colored Shih-Tzu, and just a ball of energy. She's my little trouble maker. I thought I was getting a little girl who would let me put clothes on her and bows in her hair, but she hates it. I love them both to death."

Her dogs might not be into playing dress-up, but Henning is – which requires shopping for new clothes and new shoes. She also loves to travel.

"I love going to new cities and hitting the stores," she says. "Along with lying in the sun on the beach, it makes for the perfect vacation. I'm a fairly simple girl, after all, really easily entertained."

But when the workday starts, Henning is ready.

"The thing is, I'm a hard worker, and I'm nothing if not determined," Henning says. "I don't know what the future holds for me, and it may not be a star on Hollywood Boulevard, but I know the next great thing is waiting just around the corner. With any luck – a corner in Nashville."



Introducing **The Communication Connection's** ANNUAL PHOTO CONTEST

Spring 2008 marked the first year of a new photo contest, hosted by the Communications Connection and open to Park students, faculty, and staff.

Categories include color and black and white; the winner in each earning a \$ 50 gift card. This year's photo judges were Frank Hamilton, Donna Bachmann, and

Tessa Elwood. So photographers both new and experienced: prepare your prints and be on the lookout next year for your chance to submit and win.

Ashley Venerable

B&W: 1st place



Ashley Venerable

B&W: 2nd place



Lynn Marie Norris



Color: 1st place

Terri Harmon



Color: 2nd place

COURAGE

BY REBECCA JOHNSON

Ask Lindsey Frazier if Army basic training was hard, and she will say "Hell yes!" Before enrolling as a photojournalism major at Park, Frazier went head to head with a drill sergeant or two.

"You do things in the Army you thought you could never do," Frazier says. "We went on a 10 mile road march with 80 pounds on our backs and I had an M16 in my hand. We left around 4 or 5 in the morning, and I'm not quite sure how long it took, but I cried the whole way. Thank God it was dark. I wiped so much snot on my sleeve that day."

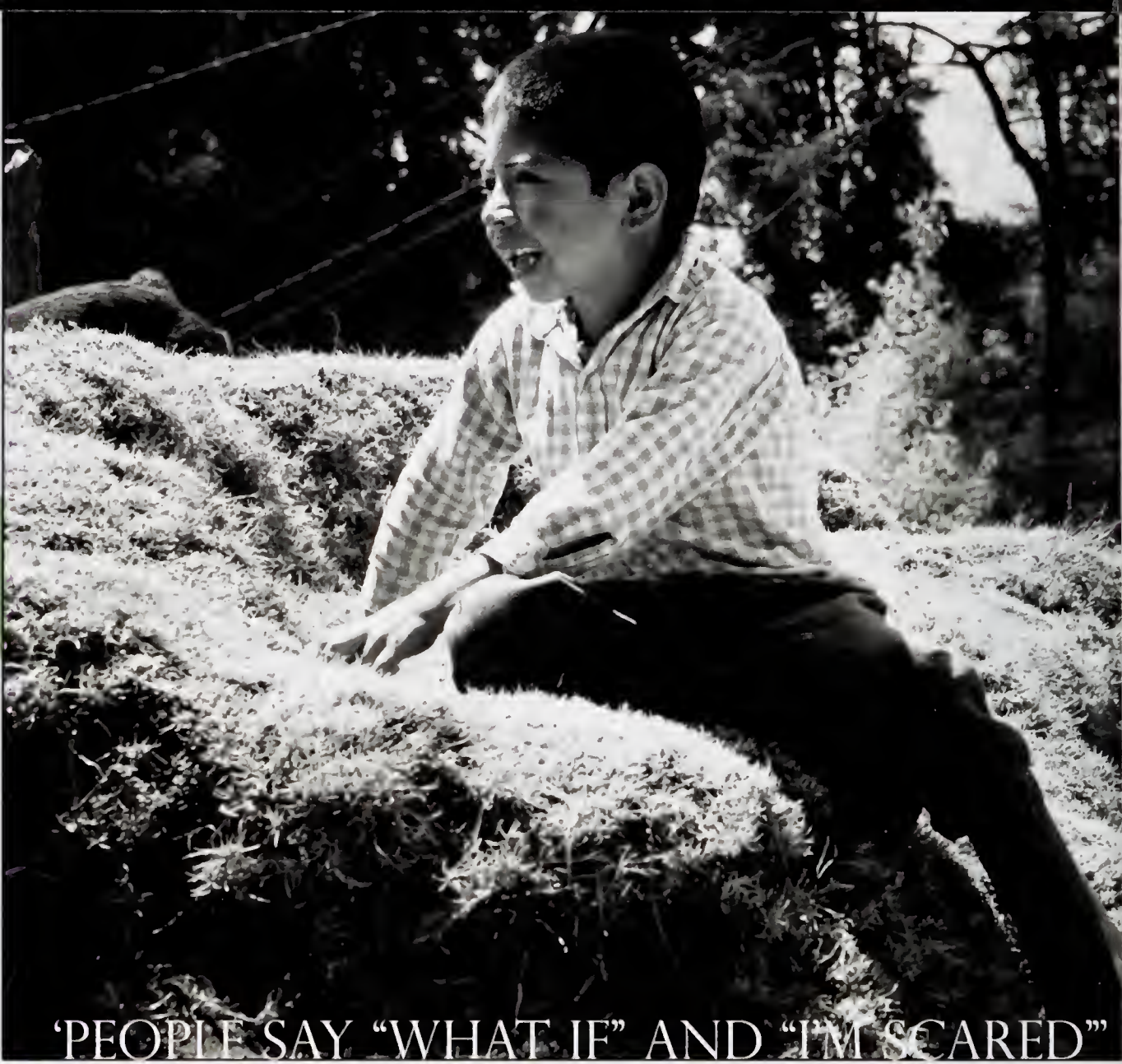
But Frazier isn't the kind of girl who gives up easy, so she sucked it up, and kept putting one muddy boot in front of the other – reminding herself that every step she took brought her closer to a hot shower. Her drill sergeant followed closely behind, pushing her the whole way, just in case she got soft.

"He knew I had heart, and that I wasn't there to fail," Frazier says. "It was one of those things you wouldn't do in real life. A normal person would bust out their celly and call for a cab. I wobbled like a 90 year-old woman, but I made it those 10 miles."

And she loved every minute of it. So much in fact that Frazier decided to ditch her aspirations of being an elementary school teacher, and take up an Army gig. She is Lindsey Frazier the journalist now - Army photographer, and Public Affairs Specialist. According to Frazier, this is one of the most important roles the military doles out, and she is a happy soldier whether she is behind the camera lens or at the keyboard.

"I capture memories," she says, "not only for me, but for other soldiers, and the rest of the world. I get to write stories about important events that are making history. When we are deployed and families read the paper, I'm the one letting them know how their son, or husband, or daughter is doing – where their unit is, what things look like over there."

Sometimes being a reporter means sitting down with some intimidating faces to tackle



'PEOPLE SAY "WHAT IF" AND "I'M SCARED"'



I WANT TO BE ABLE TO SAY THAT I DID IT





some tough subjects. Frazier doesn't blink.

"I get to meet some of the most important people, and they give me their full, undivided attention," Frazier says. "That can make me feel pretty important when they're the top dog, and I'm just a little guy."

Frazier interviews the kind of military heroes she dreamed of being when she was a little girl. For as long as she can remember, she has loved war movies. As a little girl, she dreamed of being in the Army instead of being a movie star, or a princess. When she turned 22, the timing finally felt right, and Frazier enlisted.

"I always wanted to be part of the Army and I didn't feel complete," she says. "I'm the type of person that doesn't like to be held back, and even if the situation is scary as hell, like joining the Army, I'm going for it. So many people say 'what if' and 'I'm scared,' and I don't ever want to be like that. I want to be able to say that I did it."

She is a full-time college student, a journalist, a photographer, a soldier, and after all that, still musters up the energy to work full-time in advertising for Red Bull. She works days. She works nights. And when she isn't working, she thinks about working. Still, she loves what she does, and wouldn't have it any other way. Some might say it is all the caffeine in the energy drinks she promotes that keeps her up for the constant go, go, go. Frazier rolls her eyes at the idea, and credits all the great people she works with for keeping her motivated.

"My work is so awesome because I work with a bunch of outgoing people. The whole atmosphere is really laid back and fun, so I get to do what I love best — be me."

Being Lindsey Frazier means many different things. It means working hard, being tough, and providing comic relief.

She's the loudest in her Photo I class, and does not hesitate to call the instructor by his first name every chance she gets.



Lindsey Frazier sits in a helicopter cockpit.

"I have a big heart, and I love to love and laugh," Frazier says. "In fact, my heart is bigger than my butt. Sounds impossible, but it's true! And if you're looking to pick me out in a room, I'm probably the one being funny and loud."

A few minutes alone with her in the dark-

room and you can see her point. Once your eyes adjust to the dim red lights and you get past the smell of chemicals, you'll find Frazier jumping about and reciting Spartan cheerleader lines from Saturday Night Live.

Frazier also has a serious side. This small town girl from Cedar Falls, Iowa is bracing for her pending deployment to Kosovo with the Missouri National Guard. She'll leave behind her family, her friends, and her two dogs, Kita and Charlie. She has already started missing all of them, though she is prepared for her trek to the Balkans.

While there, she'll be working to produce "The Guardian," a magazine for the men and women of the camp where Frazier will be stationed. It is also published online so friends and relatives of the soldiers can check it out at home and keep tabs on their loved ones.

"This will be the biggest Missouri National Guard deployment since the world wars," she says. "It will be a peacekeeping mission and a very important one for me because I will be learning a lot about writing and magazine layout. I am trying to make sure I spend as much time with my family and my dogs as possible before I go. Anything they need, I want to make sure I do it for them while I'm still here."

Frazier makes frequent trips to Iowa to visit her family, and get a little church in on Sundays.

"I've been through a lot in my life, good and bad, and I believe it's our experiences that make us who we are," she says. "Mine have given me something in common with almost everyone. I've been poor, so when someone asks me for a dollar, I give them two."



WARMTH

BY REBECCA JOHNSON

Elitsa Georgieva Stefanova is from Bulgaria. She has olive skin and long black hair, which winds in spirals. Her Mediterranean accent is so fluid it lingers in your mind after she has gone.

She sits in a Park University classroom – far from her beloved Black Sea. Behind her a window reveals the snow and ice of a Midwest winter. She pulls her fur-lined coat close, and begins to drum her long fingers against the table. She is waiting for her black and white photo to finish printing, to put in her photography class' final portfolio. With

it will go other pictures she has taken of the Park campus, portraits of new friends, and a few of the sights around the Kansas City. Many of them are of the Plaza.

"I do not have much time because I am slower with studying because of my English," she says, "but when I go out I love to go to the Plaza with my mom. I love the Cold Stone ice cream there, and we shop for clothes, shoes, and handbags just like we would at home. It is the place here that is most like Bulgaria."

Stefanova lives with her parents in Mission, Kans. It is a central location, allowing her easy transportation time to various

places. If she goes north to Zona Rosa – 20 minutes. South to Oak Park Mall – 20 minutes. And Stefanova does a lot shopping. When she talks about life back home, it is the first thing she mentions.

"We have a lot of fashion stores," she says, "much more than in Kansas City. Bulgarians love fashion, especially Italian. I worked as a sales consultant of a luxury fashion store at home called Fashion Pioneer, and as a sales manager at Ivalia Fashion Store. I was also the co-owner of a very small store for clothes, but this is something that is not typical for Bulgarian students."

Then, again – Stefanova has found few things alike when it comes to the lives of Bulgarian and American college students – atypical or otherwise. She says she sometimes misses the "simpler" life back home.

"People in Bulgaria love to spend time with their friends and family, and even college students get to do this," she says. "We go to cafes all the time after class, and talk about school or fashion, or just have fun. This is something that will never happen here. There is too much work, and there is not enough time left to go out."

Still Stefanova tries to achieve her best.

"It is very different being a student in a foreign country," she says. "It is very hard because everything is different, and of course, none of it is in my language. At the beginning, I wasn't sure that I could understand it at all, but I am getting better. Now, the biggest challenge for me is to polish my English. I am lucky that Americans appreciate people who are studying hard."

Stefanova was raised in Sofia, the capital of Bulgaria, where the universities use a different style for course work.

"At home, we go to lectures all the time and just listen," she explains. "We might have a couple of papers to write, but not much. Then, at the end we have a session of one month to take all the exams. We have to take about eight classes every semester to graduate in four or five years. Here, there is more things to do during the entire semester, and it is more time consuming."

The thing Stefanova likes best about going to college in America is the challenge. School in Bulgaria was never hard for her. She attended schools for advanced students, and as a child was always ahead of the learning curve.

"I think I am gifted to study," she says. "I learned to read, count to 1,000, and multiply and divide by the time I was four years old. I still remember the first sentence I learned. 'The cat sleeps. The cat runs after the mouse. The

I DECIDED TO PUT ALL OF MYSELF INTO WHATEVER ASSIGNMENT I HAVE.

mouse hides from the cat.' This was something I learned when I was two, and they were trying to teach to me when I was six. Because of the communism, I was not allowed to go to special schools the whole time, so I was always far ahead of other students."

Still, Stefanova says she was content.

"I am a regular person with good and bad sides of my character," she says, "but more than anything I am laid back, and I always have been. I am positive no matter how hard or how easy something is, and I am always able to see the bright side of things. I decide to put all of myself into whatever assignment I have, and the results after that are good."

Sometimes being positive means patching together her heart. There are evenings when she gets homesick, and gives herself pep talks to get through night. Those times come more often when it is cold and gray outside.

"I miss my boyfriend," Stefanova says with a forced smile. "We communicate all the time on the Internet and the Webcam, but it is not the same. I miss a lot—my only grandmother, because I am very close to her and she is 85 years old with a serious heart disease. Sometimes I do not know if I will ever see her again, which makes me feel very sad and I cry. I just have to hope that I will be able to hug her again someday."

She misses the places of her home too. She paints a picture of Sofia reminiscent of New York City. Her hands whiz about her as she talks.

"Sofia has many more people than Kansas City," she says. "We have less territory, but 2 million people. I miss the sounds of all of them in the city. My people in Sofia never sleep, so it is always loud. Oh yes. From my room I could hear the rail going by, and it would bother some people, but it is not so strong as trains, and I got very used to it. We have a lot of cabs,

and sometimes the city would become yellow from all of them."

She touches her ears and bursts her fingers open from fists to demonstrate the way blaring music would feel against her ears in the late hours of the evening.



AND THE RESULTS AFTER THAT ARE GOOD'

Photos/Tessa Elwood

It's a bright spring day, and Elitsa Stefanova is ready for the warm weather.

"During the night, the taxi drivers are loud," she says. "They listen to loud Bulgarian music, laugh, argue, and sometimes even fight in the middle of the night. Maybe this does not sound good, but each time when I looked out my window I was able to see the life of the city. Sometimes my mom and I would sit at the window and watch what was happening outside, and that would be our entertainment.

"Here," she says pointing to the snow covered branches outside the window, "there are

trees to look at, instead."

Still, Stefanova feels fortunate to live in America with her parents.

"The thing that is really bad in my country is the economical situation," she says. "The salary of people is ridiculous. It is hard to pay bills.

This makes life very stressful. People here are very fortunate."

As in everything, Stefanova looks to the positive side and has found a glimmer of good.

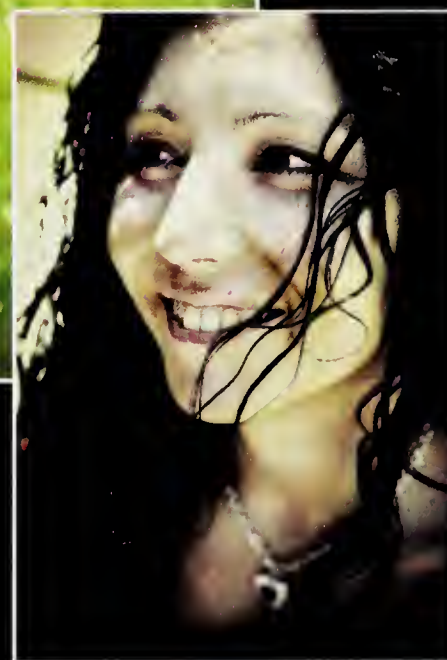
"We only started using credit cards about four years ago," she explains, "and not many people have them. Bulgarian people pay cash all the time and do not have a lot of credit, which is good because we can live, sometimes well, without going into debt, unlike what happens in America."

She brushes her curls away from her face and tucks them behind her ear. Her photo is done printing. She plucks the print from the inkjet printer with a light touch, being careful not to bend or smudge it. She holds it out in front of her.

"I do not know if it is good," she says, "but I like it." Mackay looms in the photo like a haunted house. Perhaps it could represent a frightening adventure. Scary, but not unconquerable.

"I am ambitious," she says. "I have come here to this country because I want to know about the possibilities for me, and I want to have the maximum control over where my life

goes. I want to be able to get new ideas that will help me take what I want to out of my future. Sometimes people do not understand me wanting to make this journey, and they think it is pointless. But, after awhile, I will be able to prove to them that I know what I am doing very well. I will make them proud, and then we will go to the café and laugh like I never went away at all."



Park University Student Newspaper

NINA CRIVELLO

PHOTOS/TESSA ELWOOD

Never ending deadlines

Michael Westblade is starting to panic in the *Stylus* office, a newsroom crammed into a closet. There are reporters, papers, computers, confusion, and above all...deadlines.

Today's deadline is five o'clock. Nine Inch Nails seeps from Westblade's computer while everyone is editing, formatting, and talking.

Anytime you slide by the *Stylus* office, you'll see the same few people. You'll see Westblade, *Stylus* editor, sitting at the computer playing solitaire. If you watch him long enough, you'll see him do some work. He considers himself the "ring leader".

You'll see Rhonda Asher, designer and photographer, with her daily snack on her desk and a pair of empty shoes by her chair. She's in charge of putting the paper together.

You'll see Tessa Elwood, former photo editor, listening to a book on tape and messing around in PhotoShop. While no longer technically on staff, she comes in every deadline week to help Asher lay out pages.

"Hey Mike, you aren't going to be upset if I can't fit your story about the construction on here, are you?" Asher asks, indicating this issue's front page on her computer screen. The *Stylus* is laid out in Quark, a page design program.

"Yes, I will," says Westblade, "what else do you have on that

page?"

"I have a different story that fits," she says, shaking her head. "I have you all over this paper, and everyone knows about the construction."

Westblade continues to argue for the construction story, while Asher expounds the lack of space on page one. After a few minutes, Asher says she'll work on it and turns back to her computer.

Despite the newsroom madness of deadline, the staff does attempt to achieve method.

Stylus staff meets every other Wednesday to share story ideas and hand out assignments. All photos and stories are due the Wednesday two weeks following. Once turned in, assignments are edited, laid out on the page and given a headline.

However, things rarely go as planned. No one has any story ideas for the meeting, so assignments are a scramble. While stories are due on Wednesday, they are often turned in days late. Usually they are not edited and ready for layout until Tuesday, so the majority of design has to be done on deadline Wednesday.

The hours race by at speed. It's getting down to the wire and everything is falling into place. Westblade edits headlines then saves the final two-page spread, the result of two hours hard work by both Asher and Elwood, edited, proofed, with photos, just five minutes before 5 p.m.

Relief falls over the office. Then:

"Where did you save that two page spread?" Elwood asks. "I can't find it."

The room stills. Everyone knows what happened. Quark lost the file.

It's not uncommon for Quark to lose information or crash when working on a network. Now two pages are gone and deadline is a minute away.

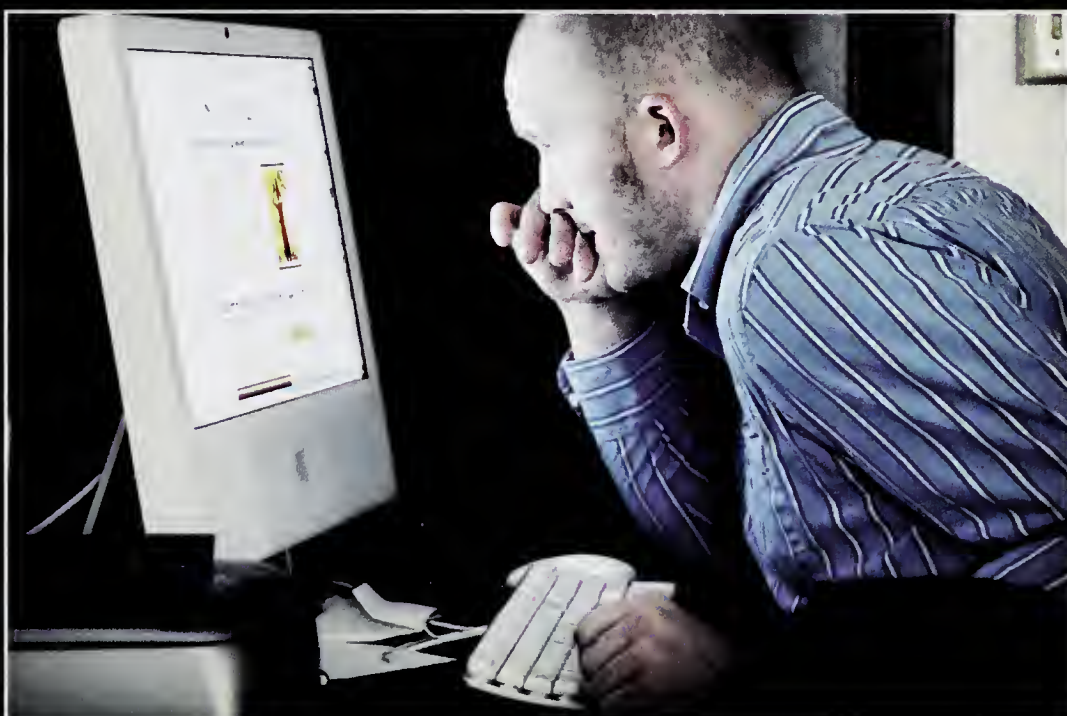
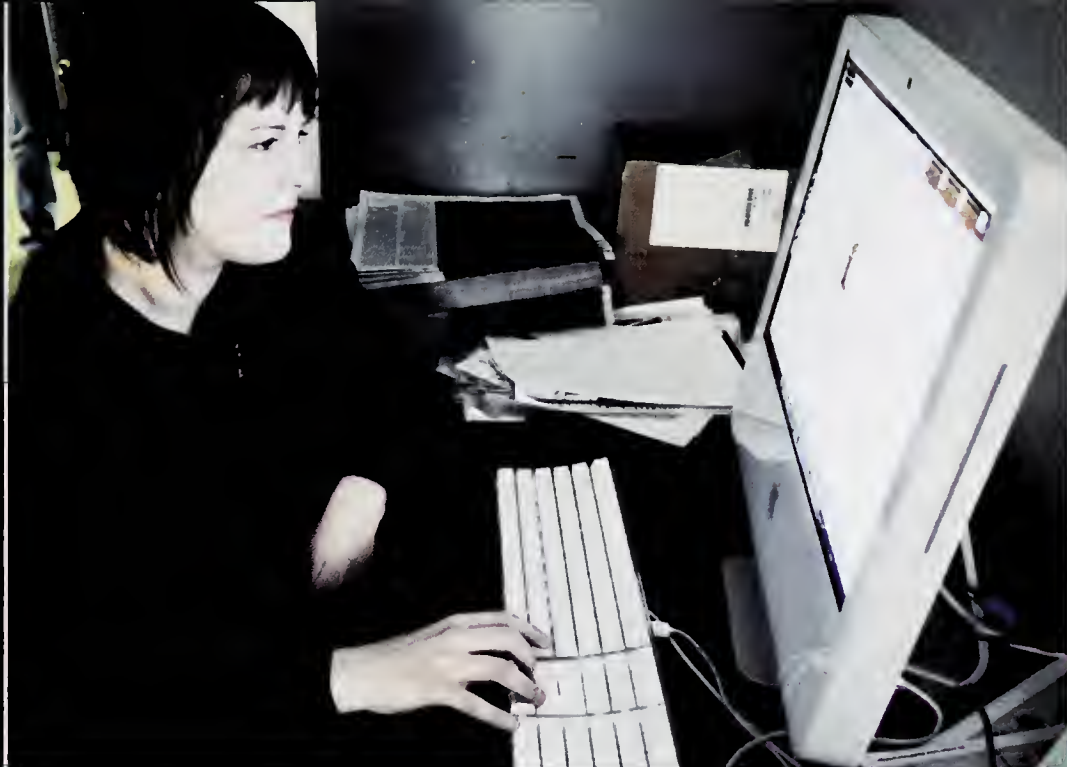
Westblade really is starting to panic. He walks out of the office and stands in the hallway. Frustrated, he pulls back his arm and throws a fist into the wall.

Back in the office, Elwood faces reality: these pages cannot be recovered. She begins the task of recreating them. Thirty minutes later, she completes the job. Asher calls the printer and says the pages are sending now.

"Stuff like that happens," Westblade says later after the paper has been sent, "but you just have to deal with it."

John Lofflin, *Stylus* advisor, agrees.

"A newsroom is a mixture of routine and disaster," Lofflin says. "The trick to being a journalist is to take a deep breath when everything goes wrong, put your head down and just get the job done. Those are the people who succeed. I always tell students journalism is not how good you can be, it's how good you can be by 2 p.m."



Far left: Mouse in hand, Rhonda Asher lays out the second page of news.
 Above top: Intent on her work, Jennifer Rogers puts together the opinion page.
 Above middle: Sunlight and mouse clicks are abundant as Asher, Micah Conkling, and Ian Myers work on the latest issue.

Above bottom: Michael Westblade writes headlines and runs the final spell check.
 Left and right: Stylus spreads of note from the 2007-2008 academic year. These include two Missouri College Media Association award winning front pages (at top), and one award winning back page (bottom right).



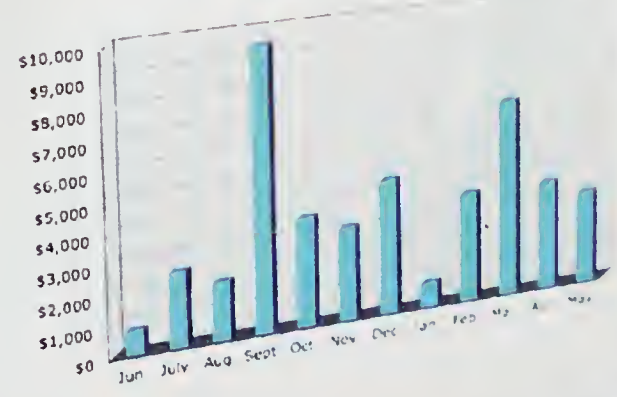
businessplan2.doc

7.2 Projected Profit and Loss

The following information shows estimated profit and loss through 2008.

Pro Forma Profit and Loss	2006	2007	2008
Sales	\$58,000	\$66,000	\$81,300
Direct Cost of Goods	\$2,900	\$3,300	\$4,050
Other Production Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$0
Cost of Goods Sold	\$9,600	\$11,100	\$13,500
Gross Margin	\$55,100	\$62,700	\$76,950
Gross Margin %	83%	83%	83%
Expenses:			
Payroll	\$0	\$0	\$0
Sales, Marketing, Other	\$600	\$700	\$700
Depreciation	\$500	\$500	\$500
Leased Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0
Utilities	\$2,400	\$2,400	\$2,400
Insurance	\$0	\$0	\$0
Rent	\$3,500	\$3,600	\$3,600
Total Operating Expenses	\$51,600	\$59,100	\$73,350
Profit Before Interest and Taxes	\$480	\$400	\$3,250
Interest Expense	\$7,400	\$10,000	\$13,750
Taxes Incurred	\$43,720	\$48,700	\$59,250
Net Profit	63%	62%	62%
Net Profit/Sales			

Profit Monthly



Business Math

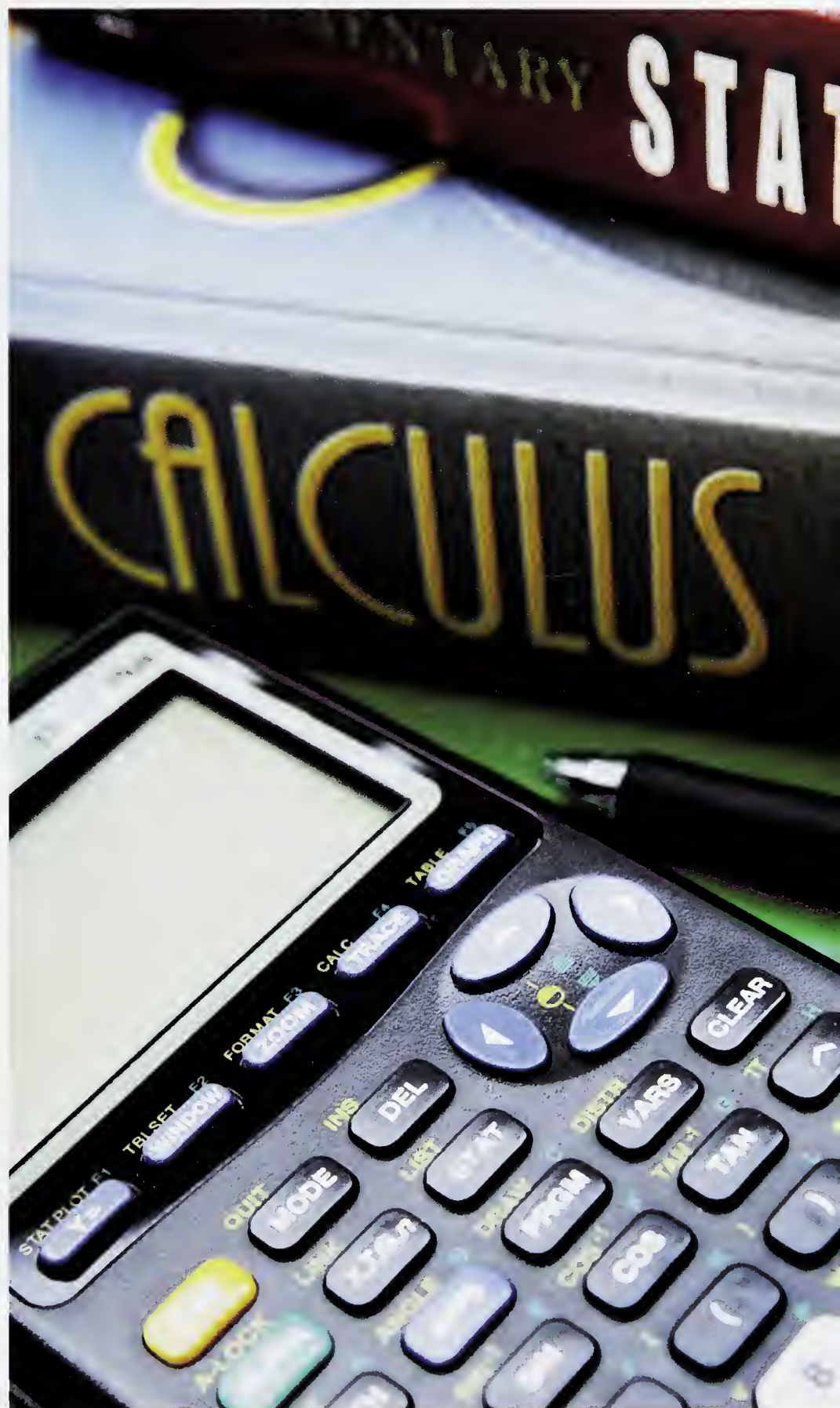


The Business and Management school is one of the largest academic sections at Park University. Offering degrees in Economics, Finance, Accounting, Marketing, Management and Human Resources, and International Business, the school has both traditional and online classes to meet student needs. Several internships are available to students, and professors in the department try to offer students additional experience by visiting local Kansas City firms and doing projects for local companies.

The department now includes an MBA program, where students can gain a masters with a focus in Entrepreneurship, International Business, Management, Management Information Systems, Computer Network and Security, and healthcare/Health Services Management.

The Mathematics program offers intensive courses designed to prepare students for careers in mathematics and related fields, such as business, the sciences, economics, or teaching. Core curriculum includes four courses of Calculus and Analytic Geometry, Probability, Modern Geometries, and Number Theory among others.

Department Overviews by Tessa Elwood





CREATIVITY

BY REBECCA JOHNSON



THESA ELWOOD



One of Junior Lindsey Rardeen's favorite things in the world is a peanut butter, jelly, and Doritos sandwich. Sitting at the desk in her French I class, she peels apart the gooey pieces of bread and carefully arranges her nacho cheese Doritos inside. Then she mashes the bread back together with a crunch. Her classmates grimace as Rardeen takes a bite out of her sandwich.

"Did you just put Doritos in there?" the blonde boy next to her asks.

"Yeah, it's really good," she says. "You oughta try it."

It is ideas like these which make Rardeen a little different. But just like her favorite sandwich, she says different can be good.

"I was a picky eater when I was little," she says. "All I would eat was peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. I usually had chips with them, and one day I decided that my sandwich needed a little crunch to it, so I added the Doritos. It was delicious. When people look at me, they might not think that I can come up with great ideas, but I can. I love to be creative."

This is why Rardeen chose to major in marketing. After graduation, she hopes to land a job in advertising, where she will be able to use her creativity to further her career.

"It's really important to me to have a job that makes me happy," she says. "I know being on a creative team that comes up with the kind of ads I see on TV would be a lot of fun, and I know I would love it. I always seem to be able to come up with ideas that no one else has thought of yet."

Rardeen first realized this talent when she was in high school. The girl's varsity soccer team had to invent a new logo and slogan for their team shirts every year. Rardeen got into coming up with something catchy, and each year her idea for the new design won the popular vote, and ended up on the team's back.

"My favorite shirt was the one I came up with my senior year," she says. "It was green, and on the front I came up with a design that showed a foot kicking a soccer ball into the net, then on the back it said 'We pass on grass.' I thought it was really funny, and I still wear it all the time."

But Rardeen says coming up with bright ideas was the easy part. Being an athlete was much harder. In addition to soccer she also ran cross country in high school, and remembers it to be a challenge like no other.

"It was one of the most difficult things I've ever done," she says. "Every meet was over three miles, up and down hills. I hated it, but I was good, so I stuck it out. Every meet, after I crossed the finish line, my dad would be there to catch me, and I would collapse in his arms. It was hard, physically and mentally. You have to be really tough in both ways to push yourself to finish, when every muscle in your body is telling you to quit."

And Rardeen is no quitter. Before transferring to Park, she went to Northwest Missouri State University, and had a difficult year.

"I had this roommate who was the complete opposite of me," she says. "We never spoke to each other, and everyone on our floor was just like her, and they all hated me. She had this really weird boyfriend that would stay in our room for days at a time, and while she was at class, he would just sit in our room and look at me. It was strange because I didn't know him, and he was just there."

That was just the beginning. Ultimately, missing her parents and her boyfriend was enough for her to begin driving home to Kansas City from Maryville every weekend. Still, quitting school was never an option.

When it came time to start her sophomore year, things got worse. The roommate she had signed an apartment lease then backed out on her, leaving her \$500 in the hole, and with no place to live.

"There was no way I was going to be miserable and go through another rotten semester," she says. "I was upset and crying about it to my boyfriend one night on the phone, and he asked me why I had to go back to Northwest at all. It was like the light bulb in my head finally turned on. I had never once thought of going to a different school, and it was a brilliant idea."

That is how Lindsey Rardeen ended up at Park University. It was close to home and had small classes where she could feel like a name instead of a number. It was a perfect fit.



I ALWAYS SEEM TO BE ABLE TO COME UP WITH IDEAS THAT NO ONE ELSE HAS A MIGHT OF YET

AT WORK

"I don't think I was meant to stay at Northwest," Rardeen says. "I cannot picture what my life would have been like without my boyfriend and my family right there. I would be sad and I would be broke. There aren't any jobs there, so I don't know how I would have been able to afford anything."

Work is not something Rardeen is missing out on in Kansas City. She works two jobs, the first being at Riverside Public Safety. For over a year now, she has logged all the police reports coming into the station. She also works at Minsky's Pizza as a waitress.

"Trying to earn a college degree and a paycheck is a different kind of finish line," she says.

Rardeen will tell you she is a hard worker, and she loves her family. But there is more.

Rardeen is athletic. She knows every stat. Every score. She always has a ponytail holder around her wrist to pull her hair up in case she can join a game of some sort. Any sort. Softball in the summer, soccer in the winter, and plenty of fun in between. Fun is what she likes best. And not just the sporting kind.

In the little time she has between her studies and her two jobs, Lindsey Rardeen parties with her friends. Most recently, her parents rented a party bus for her on her 21st birthday, and sent her down the road for a chauffeured night in Westport with a busload of friends.

"It was so much fun," she says with a big smile. "The best part was spending time out getting crazy with my friends. Sometimes we're so busy being college students we forget to let loose and relax. We had a blast."

Some of Rardeen's creative contributions can already be found around campus. She is a member of the American Marketing Association, who initiate Park activities throughout the year. Last fall, they sponsored a charity drive to collect Christmas presents for American troops stationed in Iraq.

Rardeen says these are the years to have fun and enjoy being young, because after graduation, she'll have to get serious for corporate meetings, and presentations, and board rooms. While the thought is intimidating, she says she wishes she could start at an ad agency today.

"I can't wait to get started," she says. "My favorite commercial right now is for Fed Ex Ground. It's in an office where the boss is calling everyone by their name, which is exactly what they're doing. Like Joy is smiling and Ilene is leaning over some cabinets. It's funny, and that's going to be my style, too. I want people to laugh at my stuff, and want to see my ads over and over. That means the product will stick in their minds, too, and that's what makes people like me successful."

WORKER

Sean Ringel's room is dark at 10:30pm. The lights are off, and thin bands of light peak in through the blinds from the street lamp outside his apartment. He is slouched in his chair, and half-dressed in his work clothes. His tie has come undone, hanging loosely around his neck, and he has traded his black slacks for a pair of jeans. A two-liter of Mountain Dew is clutched in his hand, he twists off the lid and fills up a thermal Quick Trip mug – the big kind that truckers use. Sean Ringel is ready to go to class.

So he logs in.

Ringel is a Park University student, but not the kind who peruses the underground and the steep steps between Copley and Norrington. He spends his class time at home online. It is easier this way. Being the only son of a single mother, Ringel needs to work full-time to support his small family – especially since his mother was laid off. Park's on-line classes allow Ringel to get a degree while keeping his family afloat.

"I miss the live one-on-one coaching you get from an instructor when you're sitting in an actual class," he says. "You still get to communicate by email, but it's no replacement for face-to-face interaction. But I can go to class anytime, and that's what's really important to me right now. There's always time for me to be a normal college student later."

Ringel is not sure if he is a freshman or a sophomore. He has not had the best of luck with college so far, struggling to finish each semester without an "I" or "F." No matter his official standing, he is now in his third semester.

"I didn't do well in my first year out of high school," he says. He yawns half-way through the sentence, dragging out 'school' until it no longer sounds like a word. His glasses are slipping down his nose, and he pushes them back into place with his middle finger.

"I went to DeVry, and it didn't go well," he says. "It's not that I wasn't smart enough to handle it, but I didn't have the time to do the work. After going to class all day, I would work all night, or vice versa. I was drained, and my motivation was shot. After awhile, the paycheck started to be all I cared about. School fell by the wayside."

When he dropped out of DeVry,

BY REBECCA JOHNSON PHOTOS BY CHRIS JOHNSON



friends suggested he take online classes.

"Several of my co-workers go to Park, and they love it," he says, "so I figure it has to be a good school. I don't get to see them, because they all take classes on campus, but that's ok. I feel like I work better independently anyway – so online classes are a perfect fit. It's convenient. I'm really glad everyone pushed me to do it. Otherwise, I might be stuck at my retail job forever."

Ringel is a Computer Information Systems major, and says while technology is what he loves, it doesn't come without a stigma.

"It sucks being 'the computer guy,'" he says. "Everybody expects you to know everything there is to know about computers. It's ridiculous. It's impossible to know everything about any topic, let alone technology, which changes everyday."

Ringel never worries about what he wants after graduation. He has known since he first set fingers on a keyboard.

"We used to play Oregon Trail on the computers at school when I was little," he says. "I loved it. There was something about computer technology that seemed like magic, even when I was too young to understand it. I got my first computer when I was 14, and that's when I realized I loved programming. The idea of building something from the ground up with just syntax and math is unbelievable. You can make the code you write do anything you want. There is no limit to the possibilities."

It is this fascination that keeps Ringel seated in his computer chair. Illuminated with the blue light from his wide screen monitor, Ringel describes the retail culture that puts food on his family's table as "necessary drudgery."

"There's no end to the rudeness of people," he says. "I'm sure some customers are nice, but unfortunately, I don't get to talk to any of them. When I hear 'Sean, a customer wants to talk to a manager,' I know I'm in trouble."

Ringel is second in command of customer service at a computer store. He says the job is a good fit for him, despite the angry customers, because being surrounded by computer equipment helps him stay current with the latest technologies.

"I love being able to talk shop all day," he says. "It's a much more interesting environment for me than working food service was. I used to slice ham for sandwiches all day. Now, I'm able to use my computer knowledge to help people – and that makes me feel good. Like I've done something worthwhile."

When Ringel isn't glued to his computer screen, you might find him singing.

"No one besides Mom would ever guess that," he says. "You don't look at me and see a singer."

Perhaps not. Ringel looks like the quintessential bookworm, a fact he embraces.

"When you tell a rock star he looks like a rock star, he takes it as a compliment," Ringel says. "Tell a computer nerd he looks like a computer nerd, and he oughta say thank you very much."

Who would guess the two have this in common.

"If I had to say I was born with a special gift, I would say it is my singing," Ringel explains. "I was in my high school's chorale group, and we got invited to sing at Walt Disney World. I guess that means we were ok."

Ringel sings mainly Christian rock, saying it's his favorite kind of music.

"The sound of it is so fantastic," he says. "I love how uplifted it makes me feel."

His favorite song, "No Longer" by Decyfer Down, plays from his computer speakers as he checks his email. Sean has five new messages.

They are all from clients. When he is not at the computer store, or logged into 'parkonline,' he runs his own small business writing web applications. It is enough to earn him some extra money and experience, but not enough to distract him from his full-time responsibilities. Still he is dedicated to his business.

"Working for myself has taught me a lot," he says. "I hear people say they want to have their own business and be their own boss, but it's not that easy. It's a lot of hard work, and if you fail, it's not someone else's customers you're letting down – it's yours. That really puts a different perspective on things, and pushes me to really do my best, even if it takes me until 3 in the morning."

Perhaps the most tell-tale thing about Ringel is how he thinks of himself. When asked what sets him apart or makes him different, he shrugs.

"I'm just like everybody else," he says. "When it comes down to it, my family's what matters to me and that's really ordinary. That's what everybody says, so it's not very interesting."

Ringel maximizes his classroom window. English class. He's getting a 'B' because he hates writing essays. He opens up the book he has been reading for class, which is about the way people read. It is supposed to make him a better writer. He doesn't think that is going to happen.

"I don't like writing, and that makes this class hard for me," he says. "But that's ok. This semester can't last forever, and this class will be over just like the rest – and that means I'll be a little closer to being done."

He tops off his enormous mug with Mountain Dew, hoping it will keep him awake tonight.

"And that makes it all worth it."

THERE WAS SOMETHING ABOUT COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY THAT SEEMED LIKE MAGIC







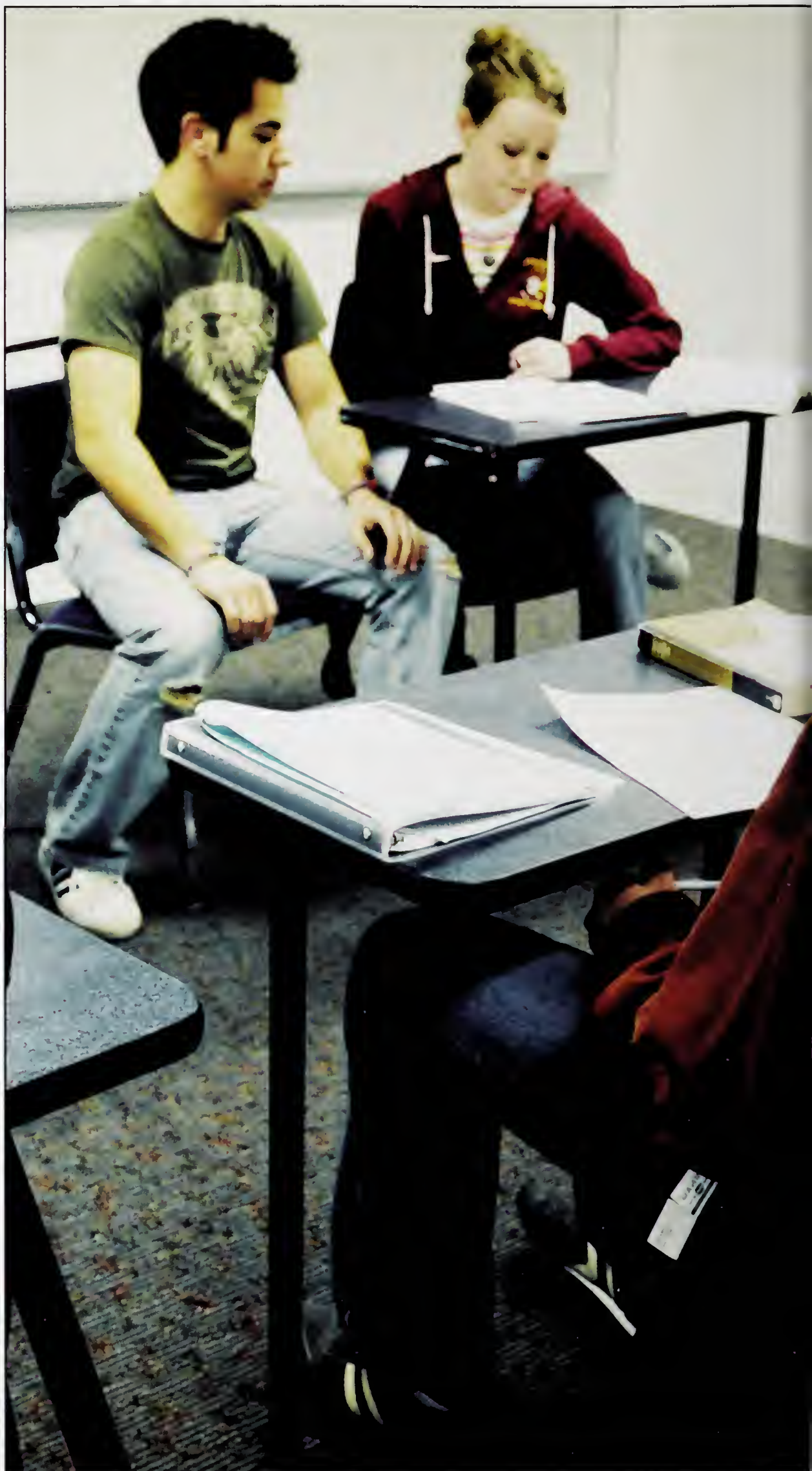
The history program at Park University aims to involve students in numerous activities related to the study of history and Park. Zeta Omicron, a Phi Alpha Theta chapter, has been renewed and reorganized to encourage the development of educational and personal goals. Also known as the History Club, it sponsors such events as the Toys-for-Tots drive, and hosted the 2nd Annual Midwest Regional Conference where papers with historical context were presented by students from Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota and Missouri.

The English Department at Park University has one mission, to instill in students critical reading, writing, and thinking skills to promote creative and humanist responses to literature, life, and intellectual endeavor. The English Club is open to all students who have an interest in literature, writing, or anything in between. It also sponsors charity events, poetry and writing contests, and facilitates meetings with the English Department faculty, as well as producing the Scribe.

Sigma Tau Delta, the International English Honor Society, offers several scholarships, grants, and awards, and holds an annual convention which offers workshops, guest speakers, and a chance to showcase your writing. The central purpose of Sigma Tau Delta is to confer distinction upon students of the English language and literature in undergraduate, graduate, and professional studies.

Department Overview by Gary Batliner Jr.





Above: freshman and sophomore honors class. Right: Dr. Virginia Brackett teaches the class.



Honors Expanded

BY GARY BATLINER JR.

In 2006 Park University expanded its Degree with Honors program to include freshmen and sophomores. The expansion was part of Park's Explorations & Transformations 2012: Access to Excellence, committed to providing superior educational and career opportunities for students. Virginia Brackett, the Director of the Program, couldn't be more excited. "It's a wonderful opportunity," said Brackett. "Students will be in a one hour course that focuses on developing leadership and service, and learning skills. We don't pull the students out of the regular population of students; they still take some of the same classes as their peers."

Juniors and seniors have more liberty with their education. On top of their normal classes they must also design a project in collaboration with their professors, to be completed outside of class. The topic can cover anything as long as it involves data collection and critical analysis, and is approved by a professor. According to Brackett students must also do a public presentation at a regional conference and the Park University Symposium.

To enter the Honors Program, a freshman must have had a cumulative GPA of 3.5 in high school, a composite score of 25 on the ACT, and scored 1260 on the SAT; current and transfer students must have completed one semester at Park, earning a 3.5 GPA.

Once in the program students are not let off the hook and must maintain a 3.5 GPA and make steady progress towards graduation and completion of the self designed projects.

The Honors Program not only promises to help students develop new skills and provide an exceptional education, but also promises that students will have the opportunity to participate in special enrichment activities, to travel to the Great Plains Honors Council, to gain leverage in gaining scholarships for opportunities in studying abroad, admission to graduate school, and employment, and even to dine monthly with campus administrators.

"In honors you will meet mentors who will be with you for life," said Brackett. "The emphasis is on developing lasting relationships with your peers, learning from each other and taking those skills and applying them globally."



Photos/Tessa Elwood



Scribe

BY GARY BATTINER JR.

Every year the English Department puts together a collection of short stories, pictures, drawings, and poems into a small book they call The Scribe. Traditionally, the Scribe was open to anyone; students, faculty, and even outside sources were able to submit their work for publication. This year, however, Missi Rasmussen, senior and editor of the

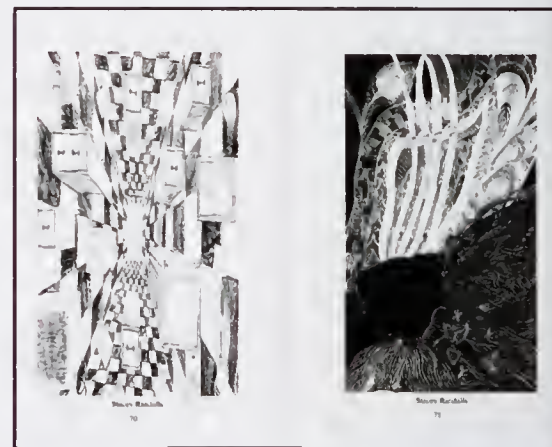
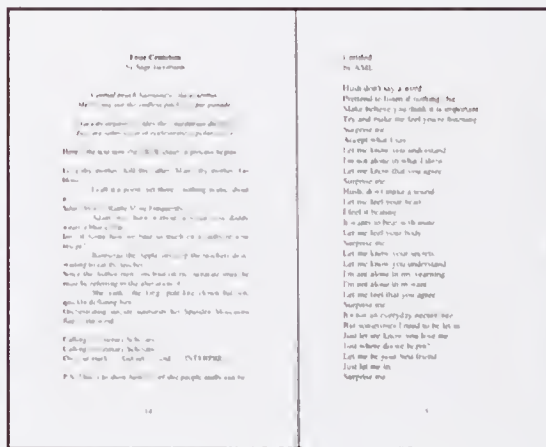
Scribe, envisions things a little differently.

"The Scribe is done by students," said Rasmussen. "It's a way for students to express themselves. There's no room for anyone else."

Thanks to Rasmussen there are now more opportunities for young aspiring writers, photographers, artists, or those looking for an audience, to be heard. Anybody from any department

The Scribe

2004





is allowed to send up to five poems and one short story no longer than 2000 words as long as they are currently enrolled and the work is original.

"It was pretty interesting," said Rasmussen. "Most of the submissions came from outside the English Department. The outside submissions were longer and of higher quality, but they may have already had degrees."

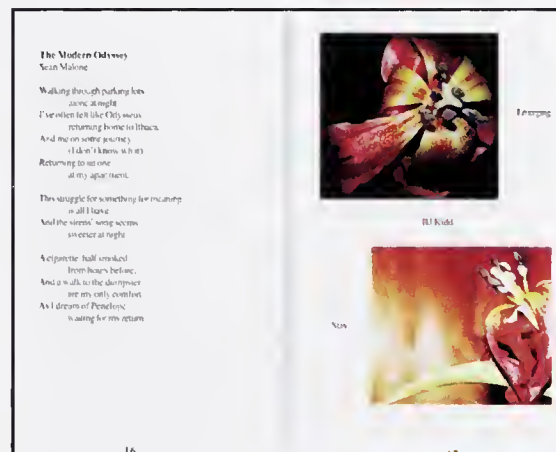
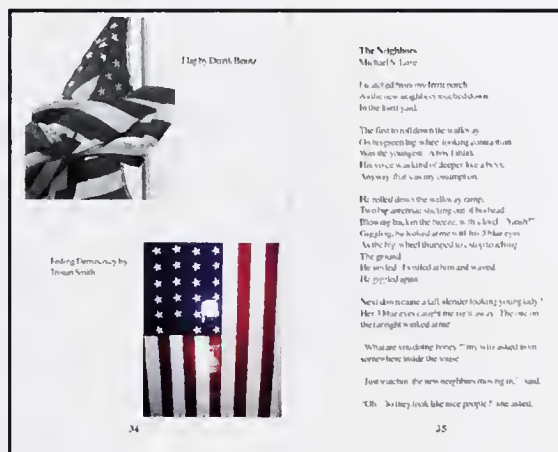
The selections for the upcoming issue were rated by a committee in the form of a blind submission. All the entries were gathered into a folder and sent as an attachment to the committee members who then rated each item from 0-3. Any poem that received nine or more points made it into the issue.

"In the past we were supposed to say yes, no, or maybe," said Ras-

mussen. "I just thought it needed something more."

In the end Rasmussen, Erin Davis, the assistant editor, Shelia Madonia, the technical editor, and Jennifer Thompson, a member of the selection committee, narrowed the choices down and ended up with exactly what they wanted; three short stories and 25-30 pages of pure student photography and poetry.


Top left: cover of the 2004 Scribe. Artwork by Joshua Rizer. Along side: pages from the 2004 and 2006 Scribes. From left to right: poetry by Sage Isenmann and AML. Images by Stacey Randalls. Images by Derrik Benitz and Tristan Smith, poem by Michael S. Love. Poem by Sean Malone, images by BJ Kidd.



2006



Psychology & Sociology



From counseling and to helping people understand differing social norms, the social sciences cover a lot of ground. Park offers five social science majors, providing focus in a broad field.

The psychology degree is popular at Park. While most associate counseling careers begin with this degree, it is the basis for a wide array of fields, including education, political consulting, human services, or consumer advocacy. It is also considered a stepping stone for graduate school.

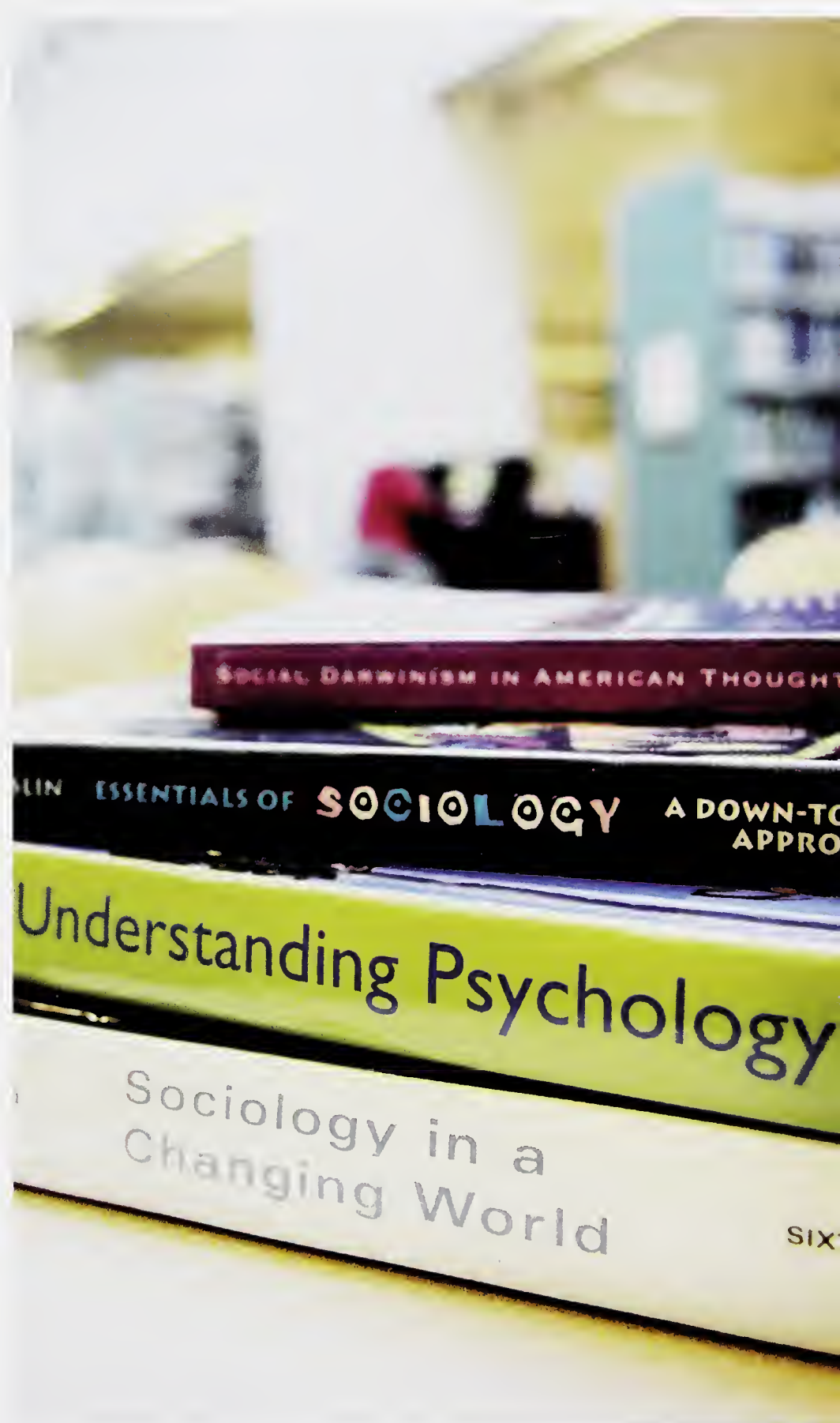
For those more interested in social problems and social change, a degree in sociology gives a more global look at various issues. Students are introduced to the theories involved in solving crime and poverty problems, and can learn about the dynamics of the family and social groups.

For students who want to help others on a one-to-one basis, the social work degree provides the preparation required. Students can choose anything from elderly care to school counseling, learning the skills needed to provide effective help.

The updated social psychology program can lead to a wide variety of careers such as counseling, research, or education. One of the few undergraduate social psychology programs in the country, this online degree focuses on a balanced education in both sociology and psychology.

Social studies offers an education in a diversity of fields. Students take classes in history, political science, economics, geography, and anthropology, as well as the social sciences. The scope of the education prepares students to be social studies teachers, or to go on to graduate school.

Department Overview by Susan Hartington





Changes in social psychology

BY SUSAN HARTINGTON

Hearing Dr. Andrew Johnson talk about the recent changes in the social psychology program, it is hard not to catch his excitement. His enthusiasm is infectious.

After roughly 35 years of the same program, unchanged since 1972, an update has arrived. Change is good when it helps social psychology students stay ahead of job market expectations, have the right skills to get the best jobs, and gain the tools needed for upcoming challenges. With the addition of Dr. Kevin Payne to the faculty, the social psychology department strove to make the current program better.

Payne has a background in social psychology with an emphasis in sociology. He is now the program coordinator of sociology and shares the responsibility of the social psychology program with Johnson.

Payne sits in a chair in Johnson's office, looking relaxed and comfortable. Unlike Johnson Payne is more laid back with his enthusiasm, but he is still excited.

"That was one of the reasons I came here. It was an opportunity to do that," Payne says about the recent program overhaul. "We had talked about it before I took the job. That curriculum had not been updated in 30 to 35 years."

Johnson agrees. "We examined the curriculum," Johnson says, "and we decided it was time to update this and truly turn our social psychology degree into a social psychology degree."

The old curriculum leaned toward psychology, whereas the new curriculum has a balance of both psychology and sociology classes.

"There is a wonderful balance because we have a psychology core, three classes they have to take, and a sociology core, three classes they have to take as well. So we've established a parallel structure, psychology, sociology and integration classes. And what these classes represent are a mix of both the psychology and sociology influences," says Johnson.

This gives the students a better understanding in both fields, not just in one or the other.

There are approximately 12 social psychology programs in the country, and most of them are offered at the graduate level. They are usually housed in the sociology department or the psychology department.



"Here at Park, we easily have the largest social psychology program in the country, probably the world," says Payne. The entire program is only offered online.

One of its strengths is teaching the technical skills of social psychology. These classes train students to process, analyze and critically think about research. They include a statistics class, a writing class, and a principles of social research class. The new curriculum not only studies theory, but also considers application. Most other undergraduate programs in the field do not stress practical application.

With a balance between sociology, psychology, and the technical classes, the social psychology degree hopes to give students an edge in the workplace.

"We wanted a solid skill set," Payne says, "and if you had a solid understanding of people and social skills, to understand what's going on there, you can do a lot of different things. That's the point of this program."

That's also how some students see it. Terence Freeman, a junior in social psychology, believes this program can help him become a better substance abuse counselor.

"I'm constantly reminded I need to take a global look, not only an individual look, but a global look at what causes some of the problems that are in the arena of alcohol, drugs and mental illness," Freeman says.

Teresa Johnson, a junior in social psychology, also wants to work with kids who are in drug and alcohol rehab.

She chose her major because of the counseling classes offered. "I just want a chance to show them that they don't have to grow up and be the way they are," she says. "There is still hope for them. They can change and things do get better."

Both Freeman and Teresa Johnson hope their degree in social psychology will help them make the world a better place. With the updates to the program, they are closer to gaining the knowledge and tools they need to make their dreams a reality.

Photos/Tessa Elwood

Far left: Andrew Johnson talks of the program.
Left: Kevin Payne sits in his office.



Online club provides interaction

PHOTOS & STORY BY SUSAN HARTINGTON

A college club that only meets online? Is that practical? It may sound like an oxymoron but with the help of Jean Mandernach, an associate professor of psychology who teaches online courses, it does work. With social psychology being an online major, it doesn't leave much room for interaction with students and teachers. So Mandernach, who lives in Kearney, Nebraska, came up with a solution: an online social psychology club.

The club was started by Mandernach to give social psychology students an easy way to communicate.

"We decided to launch the online social psychology club as an avenue for [students] to talk about things that interested them," says Mandernach, "to get to know their faculty better, really just engage in the professional community a little bit.

"So using Park's pirate.net website, we created an interactive forum that contains discussion boards, chat rooms, informational sites. Really, it was the idea of it being student-centered, that the students could direct the conversation and what happens in that kind of web space."

Club members come from all over the globe, from Parkville daytime to international military campuses. Students do not have to be social psychology majors to join. Discussion topics are based on the students' interests.

"For example, last month we talked a lot about graduate school. So we decided this discussion forum is going to be about graduate school preparation. The students will actually come in and ask questions like, 'When should I be taking my GRE?'

"So we'll post topics that kind of keep everyone in the same area, but then the students are really the ones posing the questions and a lot of times it's the students who are answering the questions or a faculty sponsor will hop in and help direct them, and there's information that students aren't aware of anywhere. But it's really based on their needs and interests."

Most of the topics on the discussion boards have been career-oriented as opposed to actual topics in psychology, but that's where student interest

lies.

The club has approximately 152 members, and about 20 to 30 who are active.

All aspects of psychology come under the club's domain, even though its focus is social psychology. While most members are social psychology majors, a few are studying psychology.

One such student is Natasha Nikkel, who used to be a social psychology major, but recently switched to fine arts with a minor in psychology. She found out about the club through Mandernach.

"I got an e-mail from Jean explaining about it and just saying if you want to join, just let me know and so that's how I first found out about it," Nikkel says.

She joined because she wanted to talk to other students and faculty in her major, which an online degree made difficult.

"Originally, when I was doing online classes," says Nikkel, "one of the things I really felt like I was missing out on was the networking that you get when you're in person, when you're actually meeting faculty and staff."

Nikkel enjoys the service projects the club sponsors to benefit people in need.

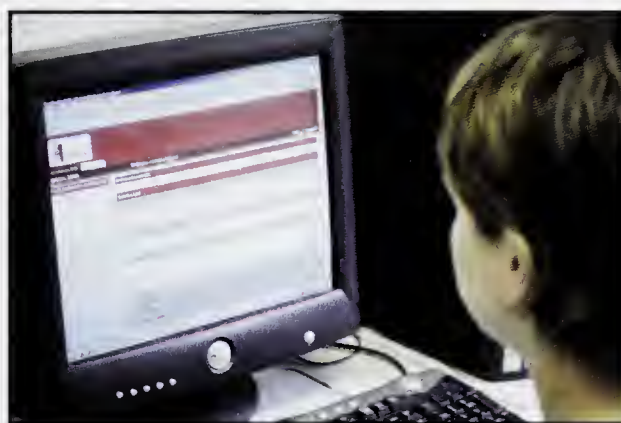
"The first service project that they did I was pretty impressed with," Nikkel says. "They found this Website online where you can play this little vocabulary game, where every word you get right, the U.N. will donate a certain amount of grains of rice. So you're playing this game, it's totally free to you, and you're doing something good at the same time. I played that game quite a bit."

For two weeks the club encouraged members to go to the Website. Whoever donated the most grains of rice within the time frame won a prize.

Through chat rooms, emails, and message boards the club promotes communication.

"It's really casual," says Nikkel. "A lot of what I've seen has been generating ideas about projects that people could do or just chatting general psychology things, if someone sees a cool article or hears about something."

Students join the club by going to pirate.net and searching for the online social psychology club.



Above: Natasha Nikkel logs in to psyc club.
Left: Nikkel takes a break between classes

Park University Student Radio Station

ALYX AIKMUS

PHOTOS ADIE CLEMENT



Music and atmosphere

The walls begin to vibrate as the faint sounds of Bob Marley's "Is This Love" draws near. The words bleed through the speakers with "Is this love, is this love, is this love that I'm feeling?" The door creaks open. Brett Gregory's fingers are dancing up and down the soundboard, making the music trickle in and out. As the music fades, Gregory's fluid vibrato skips across the airwaves, "This is 90.3 KGSP."

This is home to many of Park's students; broadcasting or otherwise.

This is where students are in control. Whether listening to Mark Fairhurst, Jenny Johnston and Dan Goodroad talk Nascar and college and professional sports on *Two Hour Power Hour*, Thursday nights 5 p.m. to 7p.m., or Gregory's *The Resignation*, Tuesdays 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., there's something for everyone. Every script, every song, every beat; all filter

through the students' fingertips.

"The production, the editing, everything is operated by fellow students' hands," Gregory says. "These are all students who volunteer their time, all for their fellow students."

Gregory's passion for radio stems from his love for music.

"It's an acute addiction to music and I wanna share it with people," Gregory says.

For some it's about the music, for others it's about something, well, more action-packed.

"Mainly college and professional sports," says Fairhurst, "We always start our show off with an hour of Nascar, just to change it up a bit."

Whether talking NFL and NCAA basketball or jammin to Radiohead and Bob Marley, these DJ's share similar ambitions.

"I want students to get involved," Gregory says. "And to become peacefully aware. This is something I enjoy

and want to share with others."

"We just get to have fun with it," says Fairhurst,

"It gives me the opportunity to interact with people."

Inside the radio station, blanketed in CD's, Nine Inch Nails, Korn and Marilyn Manson posters, students become DJ's.

For the next two hours, these students have the freedom to say or play practically anything (obscenity and vulgarity excluded).

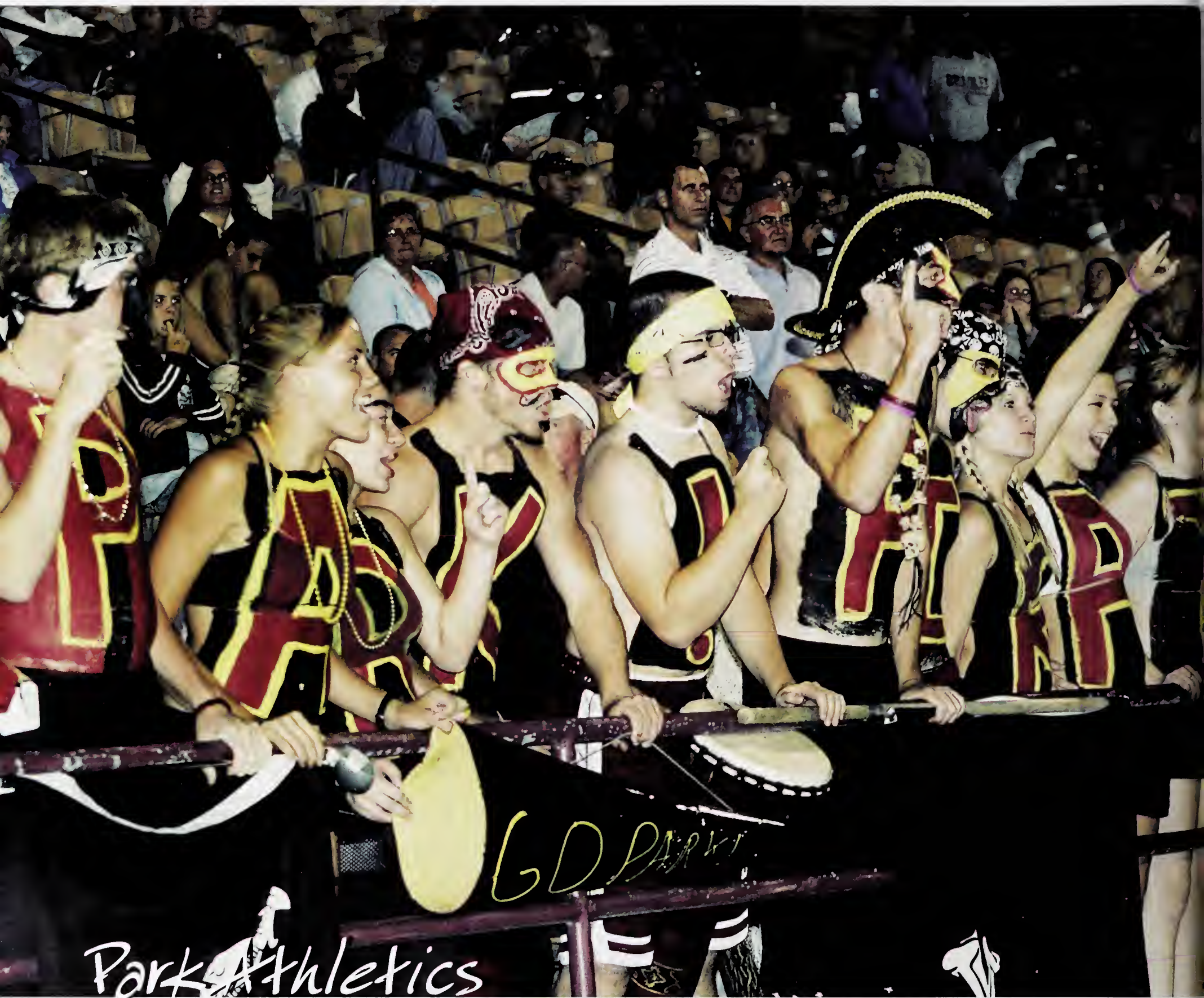
"The atmosphere is really alive," says Fairhurst. "There are different students with different tastes and so it is always changing; plus the students get to do what they want."

"I feel like we've hit the big time," says Fairhurst.

It is 9 at night and the lights are all off, but the words of Bob Marley continue to ring with "I wanna love ya, and treat you right". The love is definitely in the air at KGSP.



All: Holding the microphone, Brett Gregory does his KGSP segment, playing music and talking to his listeners.





As a member of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics, Park University competes in men's and women's basketball, track and field, cross-country, soccer, volleyball, men's baseball, and women's softball and golf.

Park has an up-and-coming athletic department as athletes fight with pride, winning many battles and slowly turning Park into a force to be reckoned with.

The 2007-08 year was no different as another exciting season saw ups and downs with plenty of individual and team accomplishments; topping things off with the men's volleyball team winning the NAIA National Invitational Tournament Championship.

Thirty-eight Park student-athletes were selected by the Midlands Collegiate Athletic Conference as Scholar-Athletes.

Sports Overview by Gary Batliner Jr.



Park Men's Volleyball NAIA NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

BY GARY BATLINER JR.

PHOTOS BY TESSA ELWOOD



On April 19, the Park University men's volleyball team was crowned the NAIA National Champions in front of the largest crowd ever to attend a volleyball game at the Sports Center. The 1,033 in attendance witnessed Park defeat California Baptist University in three games, 31-29, 30-10, and 30-17, securing Park its second national title since 2003. The championship was the first for head coach Cory Frederick, who was named the NAIA Coach of the year. It was also the first time Park was able to defeat California Baptist twice in one season, preventing the Lancers from winning their fifth straight title and avenging the loss to the Lancers in last year's championship.

Senior J.P. da Silva was named to the all-tournament team and MVP after his 27 assists, five dig performance helped Park past California Baptist. Junior Henry Uribe joined da Silva on the all-tournament team and senior Ryan Stafford was named the tournament sportsman. Da Silva's 27 assists helped spread out a well-balanced offensive attack with dazzling performances from Uribe, Erick Albuquerque, Stafford and Caio Maciel. Uribe led all players with 19 kills; Albuquerque, Stafford and Maciel each contributed 14, 11 and 10 kills respectively.

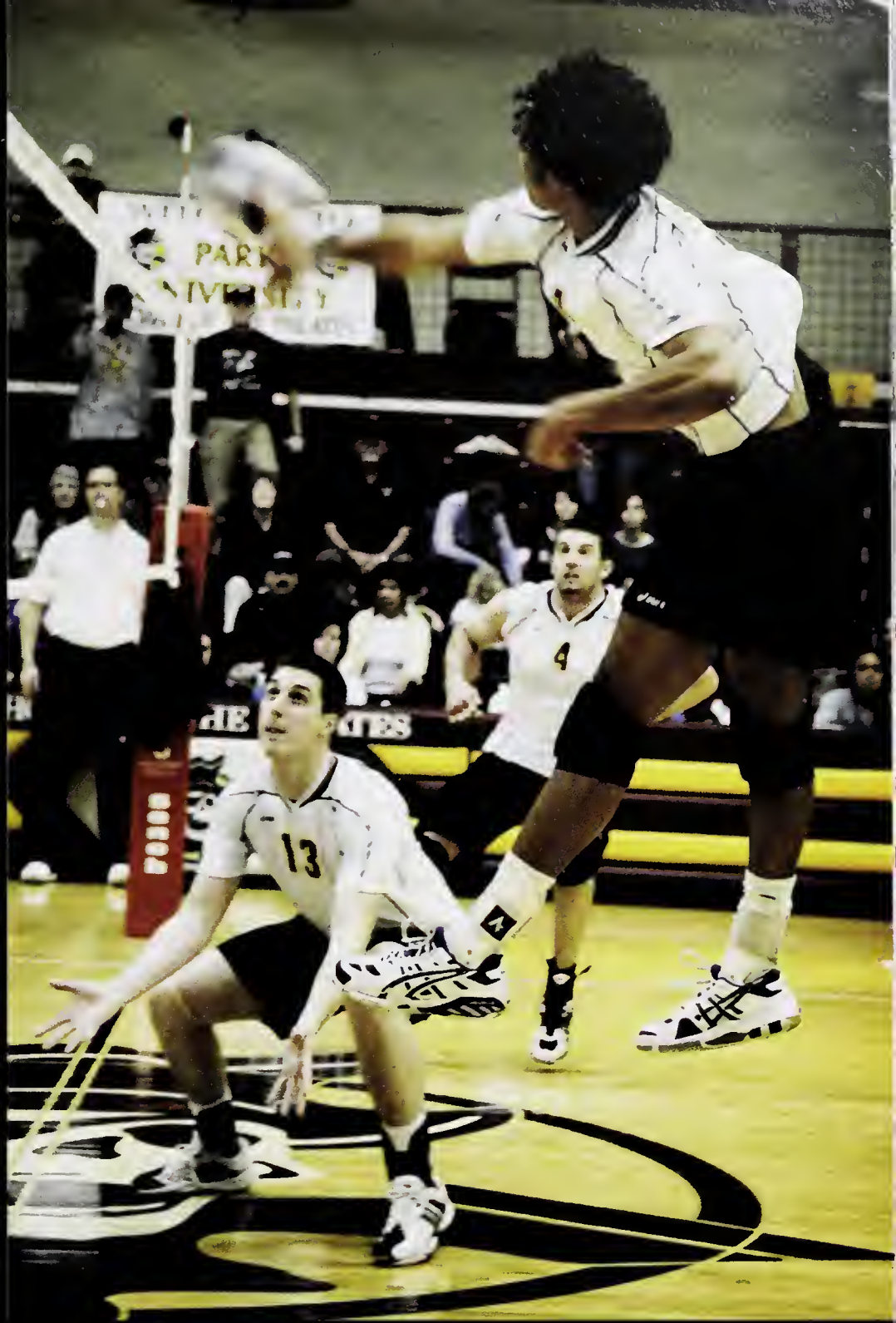
The first game of the match was the only close game. Stafford started the game off with a kill, setting the tone and giving Park a 1-0 lead. After building their lead to 9-4, thanks to a double block by Uribe and Maciel, the Lancers cut the lead to three at 13-10 on an Adiel Tiedjop kill. Soon, California Baptist was able to capitalize on a Park error; bringing them to 15-14.

The Lancers continued to battle for the momentum; staying close and not allowing Park to lead by more than three. After a Uribe kill which came off of a double block, the Pirates gained a four point advantage and forced California Baptist head coach Ryan McGuyre to take a timeout. Donald Baliaba of California Baptist must have received the right advice. Immediately following the timeout Baliaba fashioned a kill. With the momentum in their favor California Baptist was finally able to catch up with Park and tied the game at 25-25. Uribe shortly after committed an error and sent the ball soaring into the antenna. California Baptist immediately followed with a double block by Romain Vetter and Baliaba; giving the Lancers a 28-27 advantage.

Stafford and da Silva stood up to the pressure like champions, with a setup from the right side to tie the game at 28-28. California Baptist and Park then traded points as Park junior Nikola Bursac committed a service error followed by a Yukai Sun hitting error.

Another hitting violation on California Baptist would give Park a 30-29 edge and put the ball in the hands of Stafford; the man who started it all. Stafford sent the ball whistling over the net, leaving the Lancer defenders dumbfounded as the ball hit the floor between them. A kill from Stafford started it so it was only suitable that his ace gave Park a 31-29 victory, and a 1-0 lead in the championship match.

Neither of the other two games was nearly as exciting. Da Silva started the Pirates off in game two with seven straight points and they went on the win 30-10. In game three, California Baptist managed to keep it closer, but the end was nothing thrilling. With the score 29-17, a Mike Macneil service error gave Park the final point it needed to be crowned the 2008 NAIA Men's National Volleyball Invitational Champions.



Far left: Dragomir Katanic prepares to slam the ball. Above: Henry Uribe jumps up, as Katanic and Ryan Stafford look on. Left: Erick Albuquerque watches the ball as Nebojsa Janovic readies for the return. Right: Katanic succeeds in blocking the ball. Below: Park players gather to celebrate their win.





EXCELLENCE

BY NIA VAITAI

The alarm clock goes off. She reaches over and hits the snooze button. Her eyes squint to see the time; bright red numbers read 6:35 a.m. Groaning, she pushes her five foot four inch, 120 pound body up off her queen size bed and drags herself to the bathroom. She tends to her morning needs, and then half asleep finds her way back to her bedroom.

She flips the light switch on and pulls out the third drawer of a white four foot tall dresser. Pulling out blue running shorts and a yellow sports bra, she gets ready for her regular Monday morning routine. As she slips on her white ankle socks and ties her Nike running shoes, she lets out one big sigh before leaving her apartment. Her destination is the weight room in the Park University field house for 7 a.m. work out.

Sarah Hopkins, 24, is a master's level student-athlete on the Women's Cross Country and Track Team at Park. Approximately 4500 miles west of her homeland, London, England, Hopkins has learned how to be an independent woman in a foreign country, striving to succeed far from home and family.

Until the age of 19, Hopkins lived on a farm just outside London with her parents, who owned a business selling animal feed. Throughout her life on the farm, Hopkins used to compete in horse riding.

"I loved horse riding," says Hopkins. "Especially show jumping. I won our club trophy and in high school, I won nationals."

At a young age, Hopkins obtained a competitive attitude. In high school she became an all around athlete. Besides horseback riding, Hopkins was involved in volleyball, gymnastics, cross country, track & field, field hockey, net ball, rounders, and basketball.

During her years of being a multi-sport athlete, Hopkins gained a higher love and appreciation for the game of basketball, a sport she got into at age 12.

"I enjoyed playing basketball because I was successful," says Hopkins. "It really helped that the people around me were always encouraging and positive. One weekend my physical education teacher told me to go try out for an Essex basketball team for the age group above me. I didn't think I was going to make it, but I did and ever since it's been my forte."

In 2001, at 17, a traveling select team from



Kentucky went to England. During a conversation with Scott Smith, head basketball coach at the Holy Cross High School in Kentucky, Smith invited Hopkins to play for him at Holy Cross. Hopkins did so, but was only able to play for half a year before tearing her anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) during a Christmas tournament.

"Once I became injured, my only fear was that I didn't know if I would have the chance to go to college. I got hurt so early in the season that I didn't know if it was enough time for coaches to see me play."

Two weeks after the injury, Hopkins had surgery. Her time in the U.S. was cut short; after the first month and a half of physical therapy, she returned to England.

Life changed for Hopkins back home. She worked on rehabilitating her knee and coached two college basketball teams and two club basketball teams. She also helped coach a few Essex basketball teams and some high school teams as well. She loved the game. Unable to play, she coached.

"When I was in high school," says Hopkins, "my wish was to come to America and play basketball. I wanted to workout everyday and go to school at the same time. In England, we didn't play or practice everyday like here in the states. Instead, we met a few times a week and practiced, then usually played on the weekends.

"Sports in Europe are more recreational to me. Not only do I love the fact that athletes practice and compete on an everyday basis here, I also love the facilities. American athletes are fortunate to have these facilities."

Her dream of playing basketball in Amer-

ica never died. As she continued coaching in England, Hopkins contacted colleges in the U.S. via email hoping to get an opportunity to return. One of the schools she researched and liked was Jefferson College near St. Louis, Missouri. Hopkins sent them a preformance highlight video and they offered her a full-ride scholarship. She accepted and signed with them in August 2003.

Two years after leaving the U.S., Hopkins found herself living her dream of playing basketball in America. She spent two years at Jefferson College, where she majored in education. She excelled both in the classroom and on the basketball court. As a student, Hopkins maintained a 3.9 Grade Point Average (GPA) and also racked up honors in basketball, leading her team to a conference championship in 2004 and 2005 and a region sixteen runner-up position.

While playing in a game against Penn Valley Community College, Hopkins was contacted by Joe C. Meriweather, head women's basketball coach of Park University. He invited her for a campus visit, and then offered her a full-ride basketball scholarship to switch to Park University. Hopkins accepted and in the Fall of 2005, she became a Pirate.

As a Pirate, Hopkins continued to prove her efforts both as a student and as an athlete. Hopkins helped lead the Park basketball team during the 2005-2006 season to its first national tournament appearance in school history. She was also nominated by her teammates as a captain during both of her years on the team.

Hopkins graduated with a bachelor of science degree in Psychology in May 2007, with

the highest honor, Summa Cum Laude, for having a 4.026 GPA. During her years as a Pirate, Hopkins was able to manage her time well and dedicated herself both to the basketball team and her studies. Her efforts allowed her to break the stereotype that athletes or "jocks" aren't smart people.

After graduating with her bachelor's, Hopkins decided to continue for a Master's in Communication and Leadership at Park. Although her basketball eligibility was up, Hopkins decided to use her last year of athletic eligibility to run on the Women's Cross Country and Track Team during the 2007-2008 school year. Thus far, Hopkins has performed well in their first four meets earning a place in the top 10 her first three meets and in the top 20 her last meet.

"My overall experience in America has been good," says Hopkins. "I've accomplished many things and have met a lot of new people. Being here has allowed me to be the first to graduate from college in my family. I've been able to broaden my horizons and have led three other people from England to come to America and play while getting an education.

"I miss my family, but I've become an independent woman here. Times are difficult without my family, but friends and my boyfriend here help. At the end of the day, I know that my family is always just a phone call away if needed."

Hopkins' plans include completing her master's degree, coaching college basketball and getting a doctorate. in sports psychology. Anything Hopkins puts her mind to, she intends to achieve. Look for her in the years to come.



'BEING HERE HAS ALLOWED ME TO BE THE FIRST TO GRADUATE FROM COLLEGE IN MY FAMILY'



Men's Parkathletics

STORIES BY GARY BATLINER JR.

PHOTOS BY MEGHAN CUMMINGS & TESSA ELWOOD

MCAC Scholar-Athletes

To earn MCAC Scholar-Athlete honors, a student-athlete must be at least a sophomore with a 3.25 cumulative grade point average or higher, and have completed at least two semesters at their current school. Those students for Park were:

Nicole Ainsworth, Golf
Admir Aljic, Basketball
Nikola Bursak, Soccer
Gabriela Carvalho, Volleyball
Ivy Chapin, Soccer
Sophie Chapman, Soccer
Deron Cherry II, Basketball
Rachel Fessenden, Track/Cross Country
Melissa Gardner, Soccer
Jamie Garman, Softball
Christie Gray, Volleyball
Devin Haddix, Track/Cross Country
Amy Hollander, Golf
Sarah Hopkins, Track/Cross Country
Roxanne Jensen, Golf
Sean Kosednar, Soccer

Jacob Moore, Baseball
Ashley Nicks, Golf
Romana Nicolls, Track/Cross Country
Raad Qumisieh, Soccer
Dena Pires, Soccer
Larry Prather, Baseball
Kelly Reed, Volleyball
Sydney Rennack, Volleyball
Maria Ruiz, Soccer
Jake Russell, Baseball
Max Schuman, Track/Cross Country
Kristen Steiner, Soccer
Milan Susnjar, Basketball
Adam Tayani, Soccer
Angelica Tovar, Soccer
Lavinia Vaitai, Volleyball
*Benjamin Wallis, Basketball
Nichole Wessel, Golf
Nicole Wiehe, Golf
Luke Wolkers, Track/Cross Country
*Aigline Yoke, Volleyball
Michael Zimmerman, Basketball

* - Denotes MCAC Scholar-Athletes of the year

This season Park University's men's soccer team boasted a roster that was respected league wide, as they were selected by the coaches to finish first. Though the Pirates season ended early, at 13-6, with a 0-1 loss to Simon Fraser University of British Columbia in the first round of the NAIA Men's National Soccer Tournament, due respect was still given as eight Pirates were named onto the Region IV All-Region teams. Goalkeeper Matt Heiman, a sophomore, forward Mirsad Dzilic, a senior, and juniors, James Katajwa, midfielder and defender Oscar Juma all earned first-team honors. Juniors Desmand Yankey

At the close of the semester, Park University's men's baseball team was coming off a loss to Bellevue University in the Midlands Collegiate Athletic Conference Tournament Championship. The Pirates dropped both of the games on May 3, 2008; losing the first game 1-14 and losing 1-13 in the second game. Park, now 26-16, was previously undefeated in the tournament and looking to up end Bellevue; 45-12 and sitting at number 14 in the national rankings. Instead Park will head off to the 2008 NAIA Region IV Tournament in Hutchinson, Kan.

As of May 3, 2008, senior Ryan Fawks was leading the team with a .436 batting average and 42 RBIs. He was followed by junior Nick Kouratou who was batting .430 with 39 RBIs and 32 runs scored. Junior Ryan Weedin was leading the team with 42 runs

The men's basketball season ended one game too soon as they dropped a double overtime decision to Voorhees College in the Independent Region Semifinals at Claflin University. A Park turnover allowed the Tigers to drain the clock, and Antonio Bolton iced the game by making two at the foul line with four seconds left.

Junior forward Jon Meriweather led the team in the 2007-2008 year by claiming three national honors. He was selected to the Victory Sports Network all-American third-team, and then granted NAIA second-team All-American Honors followed by being named to the third-team by *Basketball Times*. With 9.9 rebounds per game Meriweather was ranked number nine in the NAIA and shot 59.5 percent from the floor, which was good enough for sixth nationally. He also averaged

and Milan Ivanovic, a forward and defender respectively, were placed on the second-team. Earning honorable mention were forward/midfielder and freshman Simon Senfuka and defender Matt Semkin, who is a senior.

As a team Park outscored their opponents 50-20; but still only had a .140 shooting percentage compared to a .120 mark by their opponents. It helped that Park averaged 10 more shots a game than the other team. Dzilic and Katajwa led the team with 13 goals a piece, followed closely by Desmand who had 12. Heiman and freshman Michael Eade split the time at the goalkeeper position with 871 and 805 minutes respectively.

scored; he was hitting .287 with 21 RBIs. Pete Peters, a junior, was second on the team with 35 runs scored while batting .379 with 25 RBIs. Chris Evans was leading the team with five homeruns as a senior and was batting .341 with 35 RBIs. He was followed closely by fellow senior Chris Luera and sophomore Jesse Kearns who each had 4 home runs. Luera was batting .406, Kearns .298, with 34 and 30 RBIs respectively.

On the pitching mound Park was lead by junior Josh Hake, who pitched 55 innings with a 2.45 era and a spotless 8-0 record. Hake was drafted by the Philadelphia Phillies in the 50th round of the MLB draft in June. The closest pitchers were Luera, 6-3 with a 4.59 era and 49 innings pitched, and senior Bo Prather, who was 5-4 but had a bloated 6.75ERA in 36.2 innings pitched.

20.3 points per game, ninth nationally, with two blocks a game, which was also good enough for tenth. Meriweather shot 79.9 percent from the foul line. He scored 330 points and had twelve double-doubles on his way to being named NAIA Player of the Week twice.

Park University also had three players named Daktronics NAIA scholar athletes. Junior guards Deron Cherry II and Michael Zimmerman were on the list for the first time. Ben Wallis, a senior forward, was selected for the second straight year. Wallis averaged 14.6 minutes a game while grabbing 2.3 rebounds and scoring 4.2 points; he shot 63 percent from the field. Cherry II averaged nine points and 3.4 rebounds in the thirteen games he played in, while Zimmerman led the team with 121 assists and was the only player to play in all 29 games, averaging 33.6 minutes per contest.

Men's

Soccer

Men's

Baseball

Men's

Basketball





Women's Parkathletics

STORIES BY GARY BATLINER JR.

PHOTOS BY MEGHAN CUMMINGS & TESSA ELWOOD

Women's Volleyball

After qualifying for the NAIA Region IV women's volleyball tournament for the second straight year, Park University fell to College of the Ozarks in the first round 3-0. The Pirates finished fifth in the MCAC with a 7-7 conference record; they were 18-14 overall. Park also placed five players on the All-MCAC teams.

Senior Aigline Yoke earned first team honors by finishing third in the NAIA with a .443 hitting percentage and led Park with 4.61 kills per game. Yoke also finished the year with 113 blocks, 33 of which were solo; both

were good for the team best. She was joined on the first team by fellow senior Gabriela Carvalho who led the team with 10.69 assists and 40 aces and finished third with 2.89 digs.

Making second team honors were two sophomores, Carolina Faria and Dragana Pupovac. Pupovac finished the year averaging 1.86 kills, had 52 blocks and 26 aces. Faria was also named the MCAC Libero of the Year for her defensive efforts. She finished the year with 4.76 digs per game and 36 aces. Senior Lavinia Vaitai ended her career averaging 2.1 kills with 98 digs and 30 blocks; earning MCAC honorable mention.

Women's Softball

Park University's women's softball team was crowned as the 2008 MCAC regular season champions in May, despite a disappointing loss in the MCAC Tournament to Peru State College. Six Pirates were given MCAC first team honors and Park had a representative for each position including four juniors; pitcher Jamie Garman, shortstop Ashley Scates, infielder Alicia Wedel, and outfielder Kristen Hansen. Catcher Megan Goings was the lone senior, and Emily Calder, a utility player, was the only freshman. Wedel was also given the distinction of Newcomer of the Year.

Senior outfielder Jill Prather received honorable mention, while Brittany Johnson, also a freshman, pitched her way onto the second team. Johnson would be considered the ace of the squad, having compiled a 4.59 earned

run average in 131 innings on her way to Park's only winning record of 10-6. Garman had a record of 9-10 with a 7.04 ERA, but also led the team with four homeruns and 32 RBIs. She was second with 13 doubles, behind Goings who had 14, and had a .355 batting percentage, good for third on the team. Hansen was the leading scorer, leading in both batting average and runs scored; she hit .386 and scored 31 runs. Rounding out the .300 hitters were Scates, .338 and 30 RBIs, and Wedel, .359 and 27 RBIs.

Park head coach Amy Reif was named the MCAC Coach of the Year after taking her Pirates to their first ever appearance in the Region IV Tournament where they lost to Friends University in the championship game.

In its fifth year of existence Park University's women's golf team topped Southwestern College in the 2008 NAIA Region IV Women's Golf Championships at Sunflower Hills Golf Course in Bonner Springs for their first regional championship and their first trip to the NAIA Women's Golf National Championships held in sunny San Diego, Calif., at Lake San Marcos Country

The 2007-2008 season ended on a sour note for Park University's women's basketball team. Up by eight with 14 minutes to go against Brescia University in the NAIA Independent Region Women's Championship game the Pirates allowed Brescia to go on a 22-4 scoring run. With a 53-43 lead and 6:50 to go the Bearcats only had to outlast Park's noble effort to come back. The Pirates got to within one but dropped the decision 66-62 and were unable to participate in the national tournament.

Things are looking bright for the future as forward Brianne Edwards, a freshman, was selected to the all tournament team. Edwards averaged 24.6 minutes a game while chipping in an average of 9.3 points. Though this seems promising Park must also say good-bye to graduating guard Ashley Birch, who was named to the NAIA All-American Honorable Mention Team. Birch also racked up several other prestigious honors in the 2007-08 season. She was the Independent Region Player of the Year, and was on the All-Academic team. Averaging 16.1 points a game Birch led the Pirates in scoring and led the league with 110 steals on her way to being a three time Independent Re-

Park University's women's soccer team ended another exciting season with a heart-breaker in the Region IV Tournament Final to Kansas Wesleyan University. Senior Maria Ruiz would have to settle for being named to the Region IV All-Region First-Team, and an honorable mention NAIA All-American, instead of being crowned National Champion. Ruiz scored 28 goals with nine assists in 2007, ranking fifth in the NAIA in goals per game and points per game.

After ending the season at 12-5-2 and in a three-way tie for the regular-season crown with a 4-1 MCAC record, and having won a pair of MCAC crowns, as well as the confer-

Club May 20-23. Head coach Kelly DeFeo was named NAIA Region IV Women's Golf Coach of the Year, as the team placed first in five of the eight tournaments they have participated in so far. In the other tournaments Park finished third of eight, second of seven, and sixth of 14. This year Park has to say good bye to two seniors, Ashley Nicks and Amy Hollander.

gion Player of the Week. Park will say goodbye to five other seniors as well; guards Amanda Green, Katrena Richard, Jenicia Stephens, and Katherine Baker.

Juniors Meghan Cummings and Cherrale Ricks, both forwards, were the next leading scorers behind Birch, averaging 10.1 and 10 points respectively. They were also both the leading rebounders for the Pirates. Cummings averaged 7.9 rebounds per contest while being the team's iron man; averaging a team high 32.9 minutes a game. Ricks, however, managed to snag 7.6 rebounds a game while only averaging 27 minutes.

The stats suggest that Park was a first half team. Throughout the course of the season Park outscored their opponents 962 to 895, but that dramatically reverses after the half. By the time the second half was over, collectively, Park was outscored 982-1058 for an overall difference of 1944-1953. Though you don't like to see your team outscored in the second half, a 16-15 record looks a little more comforting knowing that the scoring margin was only -0.7 points a game, the rebounding margin was +6.8 as well as the turnover ratio being +1.1

ence tournament, Sophie Chapman, Dena Pires and Natalie Parker, who all earned Region IV All-Region Second-Team honors, are eager to return next year.

Parker was the second leading scorer with 10 goals. She was followed by senior Laura Baeza who had nine. Three other players each had five goals; Chapman, and sophomores Ivy Chapin, and Ashley McDowell. Goal-keeping duties were split by junior Megan Newland, and freshman Monika Stoiber. Newland had 42 saves with 84 percent of shots saved and a 6-2-1 record. The rookie Stoiber was close behind at 32 saves with 67 percent of shots saved and a 5-3-1 record.

Women's Golf

Women's Basketball

Women's Soccer





I JUST LOVE THIS GAME AND I RESPECT IT TO DO MY BEST EVERYDAY

DREAMER

BY STEPHEN J. WALDON

A young boy walks onto a baseball diamond for the first time and the dirt blows in his face. If he doesn't like the taste of dust in his mouth, maybe the dream ends. For Jeff Hall the diamond and the dust was just the beginning of the dream. He wanted to be like his older brothers: Hitting, fielding, and listening to the cheers. It is at this moment the dream of baseball was born.

Baseball is a sport played while the weather outside is tolerable. It is often unnoticed as a year round affair. But dreams don't pause for winter.

In order to stay in shape, players like Hall are forced indoors. Staying in shape and being prepared for the upcoming season is important. Lifting weights, jogging, and a good diet are all key components to continuing the dream.

Hall emphasizes the importance of staying in shape year round.

"I just try to eat well year round and hit the cages as often as possible," he says.

Hall needs to stay in shape because he often plays the most physical position on the diamond. As a catcher,

he must wear extra gear and also be versatile and physically ready to take on the punishment. More importantly, "I must be mentally prepared every game," Hall says.

Eating well is crucial for Hall's mental state on the diamond. He refuses to eat fast food and will never drink soda pop. Most would think this is superstition, but Hall insists diet has nothing to do with superstition.



"My superstitions develop on the field and change if needed as the game progresses," he says. "If something I do works, I keep doing it until it doesn't work anymore. Then it's on to the next thing."

For a person who wanted to be just like his brothers, Hall finds

himself working hard to prepare for every season. Having been a catcher his entire life, he reflects on how he started in the position.

"I was always the player who didn't blink when players swung and missed, so I could catch the ball almost every time," he says.

With this gift of not blinking,



Hall would be stuck at the catching position. That is until he transferred to Park University from Tempe, Arizona.

"Cary Lundy is allowing me to try other positions and even may get me a crack at throwing out of the bullpen," he says.

Coming to a smaller school with a deep catching position has allowed him to tryout at other infield positions, as well as a middle relief pitcher. These are some of the advantages that can lure student athletes to an NAIA school. While it may be a smaller school, it does not mean a player such as Hall cannot become a professional ballplayer. Hall knows that many players on the Park team have dreams and aspirations for the limelight after school.

"There are a few players on this team that will be scouted, and you never know," Hall says. "We all just have to perform at our best and if we catch the eye of someone, that is great." At the time, Hall didn't know in June Park pitcher Josh Hake would be taken in the 50th round of the MLB Draft by the Phillies.

Hall doesn't worry with statistics. Instead he focuses on becoming a better ballplayer. He lifts weights every other day and runs to stay in good condition. With the new positions, he is also re-learning the game from a different viewpoint.

"The learning curve is different. I have to make adjustments to all the

different positions," Hall says. "But I am most excited about pitching, so I am focusing on that pretty hard right now."

While Hall continues to focus on learning new positions, he has never lost sight of the dream that has brought him to where he is. As many players have done since they were kids, Hall keeps working hard.

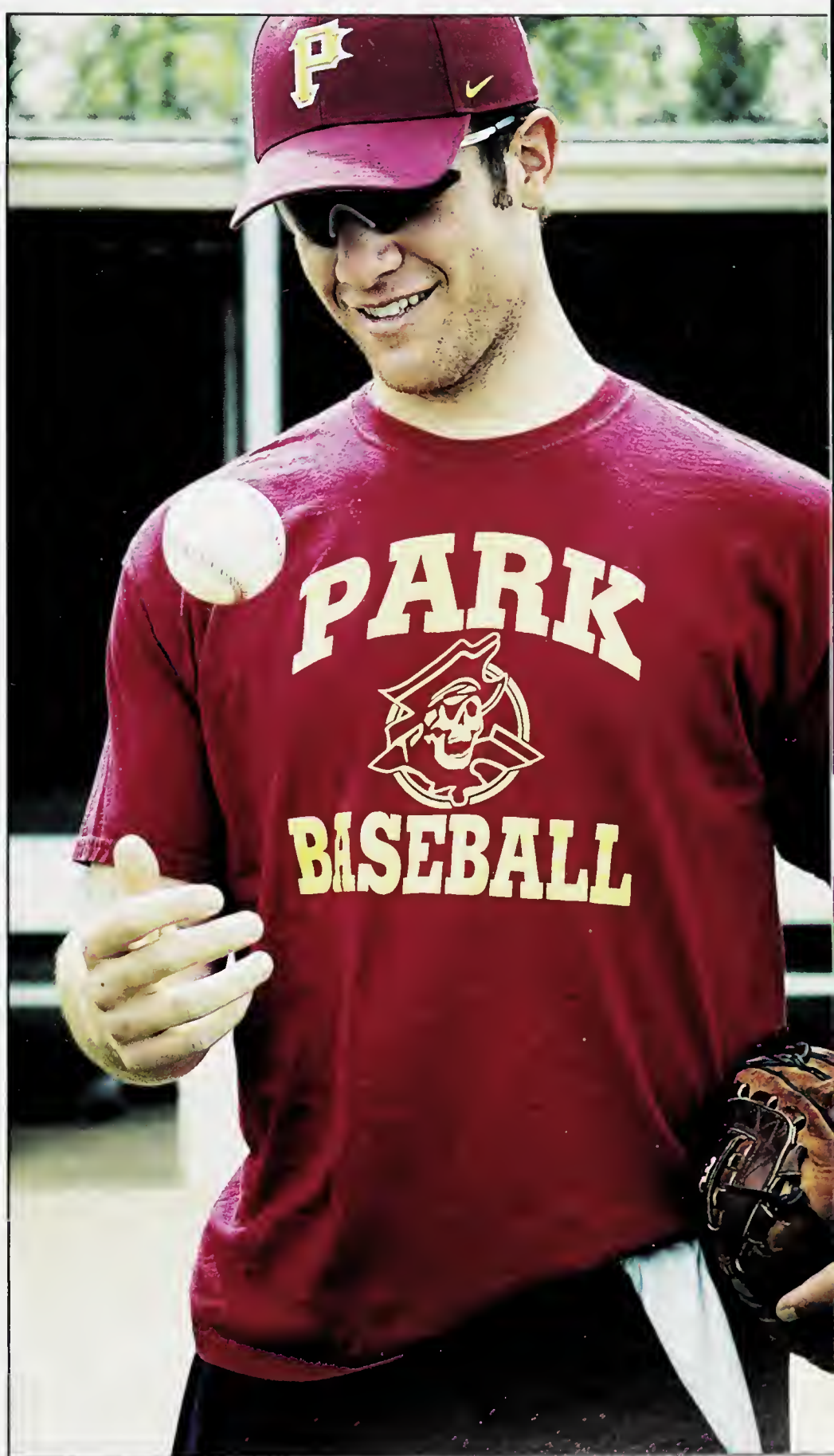
"I just love this game and I respect it," he says. "I want to do my best everyday, because this has always been my dream."

The dream that began so long ago is re-born everyday. Every player has this dream and the work ethic proves this to be true. While most of these players will not make the major leagues, the dream of playing the game they love will never die.

"I don't worry about my future in this game too much, I just want to have fun," Hall says. "I play because I like it and what happens in the future is out of my control. I can only do my part on the field for this team."

It is more than an individual theme. It is about team unity. The conditioning program is done together. The workouts are united, and the dreams all too similar.

Dirt blows in the face of all ball players, but, for them, the taste is sweet. The crack of the bat and the thump of the glove feeds their dreams. It is not where the game may take the player, but instead where the player can take the game.



Photos/Susan Hartington

NARVA

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Many thanks to everyone, but especially my staff. Without you, this Narva would not have been possible.

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Editor's note

Dept. Overview pages

All photos were taken by Tessa Elwood, with the exception of the Athletics intro spread. The photo of the Painted Pirates was taken by Meghan Cummings.

Basically it's like PG Wodehouse says, "Unseen, in the background, Fate was quietly slipping the lead into the boxing glove."

I took on this project in hope of creating something more coherent and less last minute or left-laying-around-for-someone-else-to-finish than the previous Narvas. I wanted to create something that would be worth reading.

Aside: thanks and info

Many thanks to Betty Bennett and Kenneth Lamaster; their donated photos made my life *much* easier. In view of this, here are a couple plugs: The ASCD is considered good networking for education majors, and Lamaster has a new book out called *U.S. Penitentiary Leavenworth*.

The magazine is bigger than I expected (I was shooting for 64 pages and got 112), but my staff pulled through and things worked out. Happy reading.

